

# NARO MINDED

Sticking two fingers up at the ETH

AUGUST 1997

£1.50



**CHINGLE MONKS PUT ON LIGHT SHOW!**

**MEN IN BLACK**

**CLUB 1830BC: TIME TRAVELLING TOURISTS?**

**PLASTIC PETROL PUMP ATTENDANTS**

**LUNAR LOONEY TUNES**

**UFOS:LANCASHIRE HOT SHOTS**

**UNCONVENTIONAL CONVENTION**



## COMMENT

Someone recently said to me that they didn't like **NARO MINDED** because they thought we were setting ourselves up as an authority on the subject of the paranormal. They said that it was all us,us,us in the magazine; not so say I.

Our aim in producing this magazine, is to present the paranormal to people "warts 'n' all". This means highlighting evidence that may cast doubts on a case's validity. It means telling people the *facts*, that somehow never make it into those best-selling books. It means showing up researchers who haven't done their job properly ,but, it also means bringing genuine phenomena to the attention of the people. It means showing to the public and the scientific community that paranormal research is worthwhile if done properly. And, it means not taking the paranormal too seriously. It doesn't mean that we are closed minded people who don't believe in any of this After all, I wouldn't be wasting my time spending hours producing this magazine, if I didn't think there was something worth researching.

In this issue, Mervyn Gale examines the reasons why he thinks people are unwilling to believe that man set foot on the Moon. Is it because we have so little confidence in our own species, that we have to resort to believing we had some other-worldly assistance? As Jenny Randles releases her new book 'Men in Black', Alicia Leigh challenges her view that MIB are connected to the intelligence agencies, presenting evidence that their origins are almost certainly paranormal in nature. Tony Cranstoun presents his own photographic evidence of something strange at Chingle Hall that has survived analysis by two photographic experts, and I'll be discussing why we should think twice about the testimony of 'trained observers'.

There's also the usual round-up of conference reviews, as well as the first batch of feedback we've had; not to mention reviews of the latest books.

**Andrew Blunn**

We are always looking for articles for publication in **NARO MINDED**. Please send your articles, comments or cartoons to:

NARO Minded

41 Somerset Rd, Droylsden, Manchester, M43 7PX

Articles should preferably be typed. NARO reserve the right to edit articles.

## THE NORTHERN ANOMALIES RESEARCH ORGANISATION

NARO was formed in 1963 in response to a growing interest in the UFO phenomenon. Indeed until recently it was called MUFORA - the Manchester UFO Research Association. This was appropriate at a time when UFOs were perceived to be 'nuts and bolts' spacecraft. In recent years the membership has become all too aware of the psychic dynamics present in many UFO experiences. Entity encounters in particular share a number of common features with non-UFO phenomena such as Near-Death Experiences (NDEs). In recognition of this, MUFORA changed to the Northern Anomalies Research Organisation in January 1994 and became affiliated to the Association for the Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena (ASSAP). NARO is composed of around 20 members from all walks of life, who investigate claims of the paranormal on a part-time basis. Membership is strictly regulated and there is currently a waiting list. Only activists need apply, NARO is not a talking shop.

The aims of the organisation are as follows:

**To investigate with a view to finding rational explanations for alleged phenomena where appropriate.**

**To document cases for research purposes.**

**To educate the media and the public of the subtleties and complexities of the paranormal.**

**To convince the scientific community of the objective reality of some cases of phenomena.**

To a lesser or greater degree these aims are already being achieved. NARO has around 2000 cases on file and scientists regularly give NARO their expertise. The latter demonstrates a shift in attitude regarding anomalies that appear to defy rational explanation.

**Peter.A.Hough - Chairman**

### CONTRIBUTORS

Andrew Blunn, Mervyn Gale, Peter Hough, Alicia Leigh, Michelle Hickman, Vic Sleight, Andy Howells, Tony Cranstoun.

Cover Design:

**Andrew Blunn**

**Mervyn Gale**

Artwork:

**Theresa Cieslik**

**NARO MINDED** printed by:

**John Hall**

Computer facilities provided by:

**Krys Cieslik**

NARO Minded produced by:

**Andrew Blunn & Mervyn Gale**

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN NARO?

If you are interested in becoming a member of NARO then please contact the Secretary for an application form:

**Andrew Blunn**

**NARO**

**41 Somerset Road**

**Droylsden**

**Manchester**

**M43 7PX**

or e-mail at:

**andrew.p.blunn@stud.umist.ac.uk**

Membership is strictly regulated. Successful applicants will be invited to join on a three month trial basis after which full membership may or may not be granted. Members should be able to attend regular meetings in the centre of Manchester. NARO is now operating a postal investigator training course. For more details contact the Secretary at the above address.

The Northern Anomalies Research Organisation accepts no liability for articles published in NARO MINDED. The articles represent the views of the writers and not the views of NARO.

©Northern Anomalies Research Organisation





# The House A Knight Built

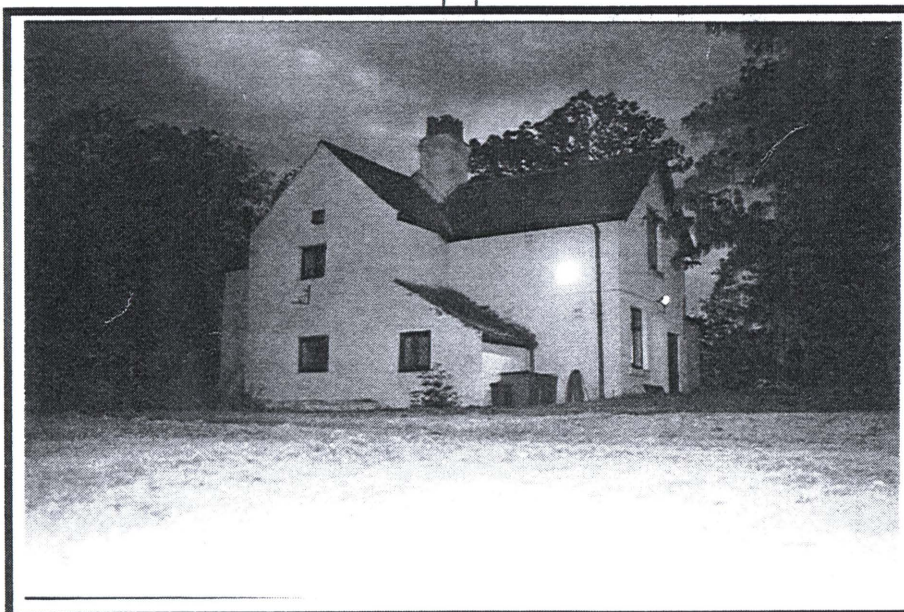
When lesser knight Adam De Singleton built Chingle Hall in 1260AD, he could never have imagined the mysteries his construction would eventually spawn. NARO member Tony Cranstoun discusses the latest of these happenings....

Of the 5300 moated manor houses that existed in Britain in the thirteenth century, Chingle is almost certainly the most well known to paranormal researchers. The history of the building has already been covered in detail in previous issues of **NM**, suffice to say that it is

now considered to be one of the most haunted houses in Britain.

As a group, NARO decided it would be worth visiting the hall; and so in the latter half of January of 1996,

eight intrepid researchers set off up the M61 in the direction of Goosenargh, the small village that is adjacent to the much frequented dwelling. Many of the team were 'Chingle Hall virgins', and were surprised by the size of the building, which despite its elevated title, doesn't quite live up to expectations.



Chingle Hall on that January evening Photograph by Andrew Blunn

I was armed with my trusty SLR camera and a flask of hot soup, hoping that whatever was behind the multitude of phenomena that are alleged to have occurred at Chingle, would decide to put on a show for us. The evening began quietly without any incidents, with only small ambiguous 'anomalies' occurring. Like

the three thumps that were heard on the ceiling in the John Wall room, footsteps in the chapel, and the sensation of being

touched. The sound of a choir was recorded on tape, and the smell of lavender wafted through the priests room - which is pretty uneventful - for Chingle at least. At 2.00am, we were all sat round the table in the 'Great Hall', which

in reality isn't much bigger than an average lounge. At about 2.00am, Mark Glover (NARO researcher and psychologist) and I were in the chapel, sat on the floor with no lights on. I had my camera round my neck in case we might see something. Mark saw something that looked like a ball of light, so he went to tell the other members of the group; just after he left the room, I saw a ball of light on one the beams that spans the chapel. I just grabbed my camera and pointed in the general direction of the light and pressed the button, hoping that I had caught it on film.

The photograph that emerged did indeed show a strange ball of light - as I described; it also showed another light formation which appears more spectacular and takes up most of the image on the negative. I was surprised by the image, as I only witnessed one single ball of light. I thought on first inspection that the streaks of light may have been caused by a camera fault; however analysis by two independent experts has, as yet, failed to yield an answer. Perhaps this was some sort of camera malfunction, which merely coincided with me imagining that I saw a strange ball of light - after all, it had been a long night of sitting in the darkness waiting for something to happen. Perhaps I *did* capture 'strange lights' on film.

Perhaps the photo shows a genuine anomaly. Another explanation which doesn't immediately spring to mind, is the possibility that, caught in the excitement of an apparent paranormal episode, and wanting the photograph to reveal proof that I had witnessed something strange, I had somehow projected the image onto the film. The list of possibilities is as powerful as the imagination.

## effect

I don't really care about what people think; once you've seen something like that you've proved it to yourself and that's all that matters. I've joined a research group, investigated

reports and seen something anomalous all in a year or so. Where do you go from here?

The incident, which may seem trivial

to some people, has had an effect on my perspective with regard to the paranormal. It hasn't been a life changing episode by any means! - and my interest in the supernatural is as strong as ever.

The second event to occur at Chingle, did not unfortunately, occur before the waiting lens of a camera.



The Strange light formation as captured on film - Tony Cranstoun©

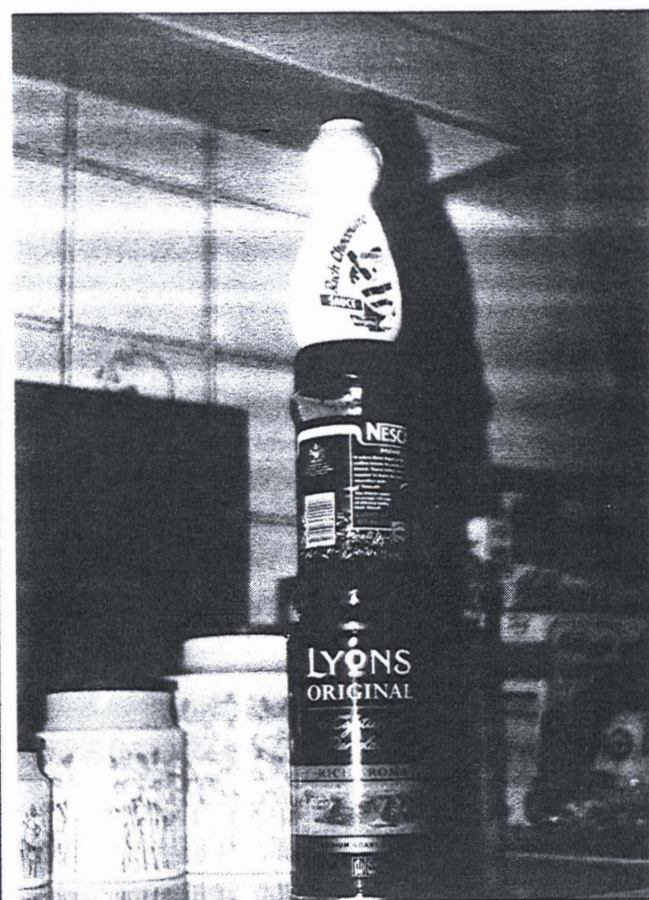


**Andrew Blunn writes:**

The incident took place at the end of June, 1996 whilst I was at Chingle with another group based in Manchester. As in the case of Tony's photo, the group were gathered in the Great Hall, with the exception of two of the team who were in the grounds of the building. I heard what sounded like the shuffling of feet in the chapel; others described different sounds such as bangings and a scraping sound. Whatever it was, it drew the attention of myself, and fellow researchers Mervyn Gale, Stephen Mera and Liam Hetherington. We walked into the chapel and found nothing amiss. Upon entering the kitchen, Mervyn walked across to the other side of the room and turned around, whilst I stood in the doorway, Steve and Liam also stood in the kitchen and glanced around the room. It was at this point, after approximately 20 seconds, that Mervyn exclaimed: "Who did that?". I said "What?" and upon turning to my right, I saw three objects stacked on top of one another. We could not account for the stacking of these items as everyone was accounted for at that time. What was perhaps even stranger than the stacking was the fact that Mervyn, Stephen, Liam and I did not initially notice these objects upon first entering the room.

**jumping pegs**

The kitchen was again the focus of a strange incident involving a clothes peg. The peg apparently jumped out of a basket of its own accord. It could not have fallen out, or off a shelf because of the position it landed in. Other incidents that occurred included swinging chandeliers, and a mysterious moving torch, which found its way to the top of the stairs from the dining table in the Great Hall - all by itself.



The stacked objects: as photographed by Andrew Blunn.

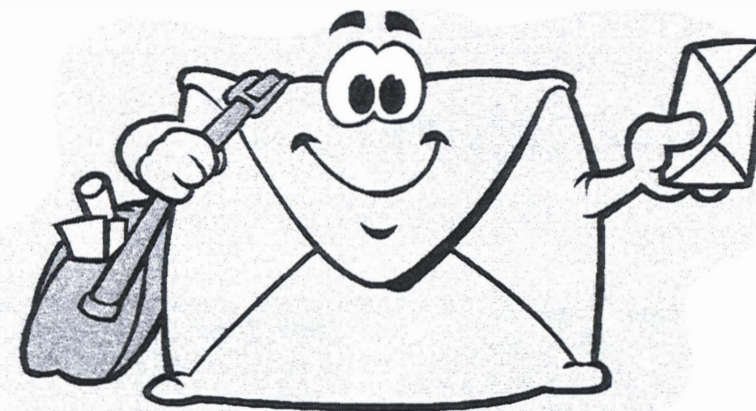
©Andrew Blunn 1996

Chingle Hall continues to occasionally present challenges to researchers who dare to spend the night there. Staying there is a bit of a gamble, one which, as many a paranormal researcher will attest, we often lose.

**SUBSCRIBE  
TO**

**NARO MINDED**

*see inside back cover for details*



# NARO MINDED MAIL

*Comments and criticisms to: NMMail, 41 Somerset Road,  
Droylsden, Manchester, M43 7PX*

*A Disgruntled Researcher writes...*

**RE: 'Unbelievable!' NM Issue 5**

**Dear Alicia**

Please note that Peter Hough had nothing whatsoever to do with arranging the hypnosis session of the Ilkley Moor witness.

The consultant hypnotist Dr Singleton was an acquaintance of Steve Balon and it was Steve who asked him to do the hypnosis.

The session was actually arranged by me to take place in my house. It was me who invited Peter Hough to my house to hear the results. The session was recorded by Matthew Hill.

Peter Hough was not in the room during the session.

I trust you will correct this info in your next issue.

signed

Arthur Tomlinson BSc.

**Alicia replies...**

*Dr Jim Singleton was an acquaintance of Journalist Matthew Hill who arranged the hypnosis session and despite the fact that all persons were present at Mr Tomlinson's house, only the witness, Matthew Hill and Dr Singleton were in the room whilst the hypnosis was carried out.*

*Alicia Leigh 27/5/97*

**Note:** During a recent radio broadcast, Steve Balon rang the station and came on air. He stated that Mervyn Gale and I "...did not know what we were talking about..." and that he had evidence that "...would drive us into the ground...". All I can say to that is excellent; let us see this evidence then. As I have stated on many occasions: nothing could be more astounding than proof that we are being visited by extraterrestrials from a distant world (however bizarre their motives) - I am perfectly open-minded to that possibility, as I am to all the explanations put forward for the UFO phenomenon.

*Andrew Blunn.*

**Conference Query**

**Dear NARO**

Since **NARO MINDED** writers are so critical of the conferences of other groups, I was wondering when NARO will be organising one of their own?

L McDonald, Ashton-Under-Lyne.

**NM replies...**

*NARO are just putting the finishing touches to their own event which will be taking place in September; for more details see the full page advert in this issue.*

**ERRATUM:** In Issue 4 of **NARO MINDED**, I incorrectly stated the name of the gentleman who likened Abduction Researcher and Solicitor Harry Harris to one of those stains that only Ariel Ultra can shift. The man in question was meant to be LAPIS supremo and 'New Ufologist' Editor Joseph Dormer.

*Andrew Blunn.*

**Happy Chappie**

**Dear Naro Minded**

I am writing to say how much I enjoy your magazine. It has come a long way since the days of that hideous 'army style' logo on mustard coloured paper. Keep it up.

Yours sincerely

J. Morrison, Oldham, Lancs

**A UFOrak writes...**

**Dear Naro Minded**

I think your magazine is a pile of dung. How can you be so sceptical about UFOs when the evidence is staring you in the face? As for Andrew Blunn's 'My Other Coat is An Anorak' article in issue 5, he shouldn't be so quick to judge, after all, he is just a sad researcher as well.

Yours sincerely

'Agent X'

*And thats it for this issue, keep them coming!*



## THE USUAL SUSPECTS

Andrew Blunn visited the latest conference offering from LAPIS, which was somewhat misleadingly titled: A Day of Strange Phenomena.....

The controversy had begun days before I arrived. My sources informed me that one of the speakers, who was to talk about underground bases in Berkshire, had been on the wrong end of three unidentified fists; this slapping had landed him in intensive care - apparently - although upon arriving at the event I heard whispers to the contrary.

Eric Morris, Director of BUFOSC, Director of the Abduction Research Counselling Centre (ARCC), Director of the BBC - just kidding, was the first head in the noose. Eric regaled us with the tale of his first ever UFO case; its something you always remember says Eric - a bit like your first car or your first kiss eh? Anyway his point was that *his* first ever case turned out to be a hoax. Let that be a warning to us all, cautions Eric, who concedes that it was a third party who tipped him off on that momentous first occasion.

The main theme of Eric's talk was the alleged abduction of a lady whom I shall call Mrs X. Mrs X was taken into a Tardis-like caravan where she had sexual intercourse with a man whom it later transpired would become the father of her hybrid child.

Eric stated that he thought the case was fascinating and on that point I have to agree. Eric, however, believes it was real aliens abducting Mrs X. I don't. I think it is more likely that this happening has a more psycho-social explanation.

During the 'abduction', Mrs X describes being at the edge of a [swimming] pool which is full of a green liquid which doesn't appear very deep. On the other side of the pool are two 'people' - a vagrant and what Mrs X describes as a prostitute or 'tart'.

When Mrs X gets into the pool she finds it is a lot deeper than she first thought (it come up to her shoulders). She then feels drawn towards the tramp and the prostitute and upon arriving at the other side of the pool she has sex with them.

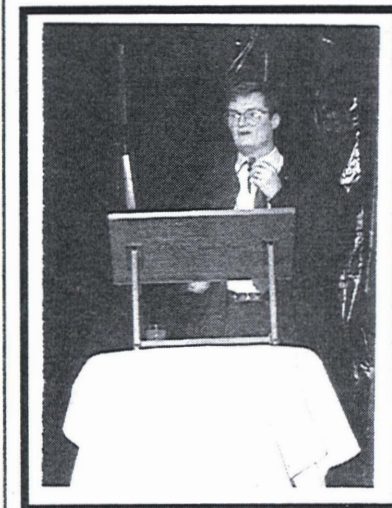
It seems to me there is a lot of dream imagery in this episode which cannot be discounted, after all, does it seem reasonable that the spacemen, who wanted an egg for fertilisation, would abduct a woman and force her to wade through a pool of liquid? Upon arriving at the required destination she then has to have to have sex with an alien who has kindly dressed up as a tramp for her. If the ETs can take someone from their home and into a caravan which according to Eric, is as big as an aircraft hangar inside, then why do they need to carry out the insemination 'manually'? Of course who ever said the aliens were sensible?

Of course this does not mean we should dismiss this (or any other) abduction case. Cases like this one can help us to understand the reasons behind the 'front' of the ETs. Indeed this case also involved a UFO sighting in the field where the 'caravan' was. The case of Mrs X, can teach us a lot about the phenomenon, helping us to cut through the glossy veneer of the aliens and get to the real truth.

Aside from Eric's talk, I picked up an interesting pamphlet from the stall he was operating. It concerned the *Golden Saucer Awards* which are being hosted by the Tatton Cinema in Gatley on June 29th. This odd event in the ufological calendar will feature 4 awards: the best 'real' and the best 'fake' still photograph of a UFO, and the best 'Real' and the best 'fake' video footage!

Anyone can submit an entry. What I want to know is how they know which are 'real' and which are 'fake'! Experience has shown that it can take anything from 1 week to 30 years for a photograph to be proved a hoax.

I was surprised to discover that the manager of Gatley Cinema now runs the Pendle & Hyburn UFO Group (PHUFOG, formerly Burnley UFO Group) and that Eric Morris works there part-time as a projectionist.



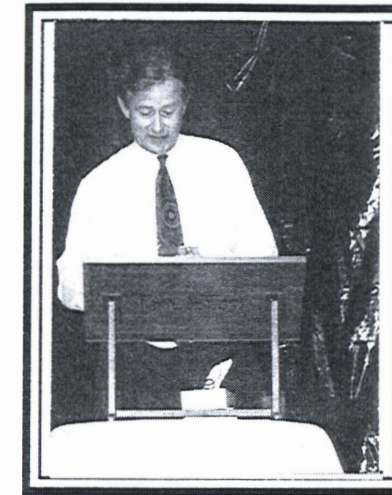
Eric Morris makes his attempt on the current world record for the number of times the word 'strange' and the word 'chappie' are mentioned during a lecture

Unfortunately, there wasn't any time for questions at the end of Eric's piece and so I was unable to ask him if his theory that Jimi Hendrix was an abductee because he was a 'quiet, introverted boy' was the type of analysis he resorted to regularly.

subscribe to

**NARO MINDED**

Former editor of 'The Cereologist' George Wingfield was next to take up the challenge with a talk on the mysterious flying triangles, or 'UFTs' as he calls them.



Round in Circles?

At this point, Wingfield took the sensible precaution of checking that Tim Matthews was not present in the audience - before launching into a scathing verbal rubbing of the so-called 'Flying Triangle' mystery. He even went so far as to tear-up a copy of a paper Tim had written on the subject. I would have thought George would have had more respect for Tim's paper - especially since his own 'pet-subject' of crop-circles is not exactly cut and dried. At least there aren't (as far as I know) gangs of students going round faking flying triangles.

It should be noted at this point that also present at this illustrious assembly was Simon Lewis. He's the guy who, at the previous LAPIS conference in November (see NMissue 4), claimed there was an anomalous 'face' on the moon. He also wondered why it was that the Stealth Fighters needed markings on them - he inferred that it was so that the grey space aliens don't shoot them down. Simon wasn't speaking this time, instead he was dutifully manning the NLUFOIG stall and selling photocopied booklets containing badly reproduced pictures of the Stealth Bomber as well as various other fighter aircraft such as the F-16.

Also included in this 'poor man's' Jane's Defence Weekly was a brief resume of current aircraft technology - I would have purchased one, but at £2 a throw I thought it wise not to.

Anyway I digress: George Wingfield covered the Belgian Triangles case in some detail. George referred to the hundreds of reported sightings and showed a reconstruction produced by the 'Sightings' TV program. George neglected to mention the fact that not everyone reported triangles - and that some Belgian ufologists think that the F16s were merely locking onto each other as opposed to a spaceship. It was, however, an interesting lecture; and certainly the least biased one on the triangles subject that I have seen.

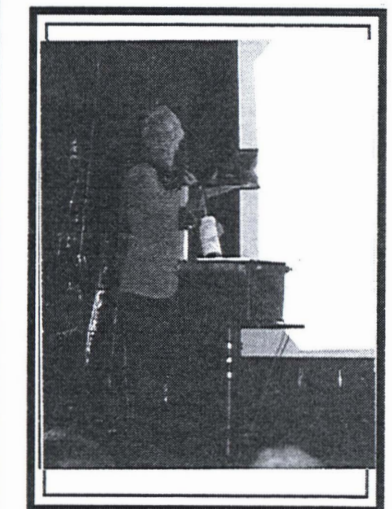
### fruitful stalls

After a mammoth 2.5 hours without a break it was lunchtime, and after 'hitting' the local Pizza Hut, I took the opportunity to glance at the assembled traders. I gazed depressingly at the rows of Commander X books, supplemented with a clean cut bloke and his dubiously attired friend. Whatever their taste in clothing, they were vending 'channeled' paintings. There was, however, one fruitful stall amongst the stagnation, and it was there that I purchased a copy of 'Man in Black', a small A5 sized mag edited by Boo Busby. MIB is a polished and accurate periodical which leapt like a Dolphin from a sea of blandness (for more info see the exchange mags section).

### Alien Paramedics

Dr Rauni-Leena Luukarem Kilde, finish UFO researcher and former Chief Medical Officer for Lapland spoke next (after the MC had got her name right). It seems that some years ago, Kilde was involved in a car crash despite, she claims, being warned psychically not to drive. Whilst lying seriously injured by the roadside, she claims that an alien being (like the one in the film

"ET") saved her life by patching her up until his terrestrial counterparts arrived. Kilde has since claimed to have close relationships with prominent scientists, not to mention high ranking military personnel. Unfortunately, Kilde is unable to name any of them - but *they* have proof of the aliens existence. Kilde cited the example of how a (very small) number of scientists did not believe that the Wright brothers had made human flight possible, and how this is analogous to the current UFO situation. I do not agree. The Wright's experiments were reproducible



Dr Kilde discusses Hale-Bopp

cible and the laws that governed their fantastic achievement were scientifically defined. This kind of evidence has evaded the UFO phenomenon for some time. In between making the most ridiculous statements that would put even the most ardent conspiracist to shame (like saying the CIA was formed by Nazis) she also charmed us with tales of her joyrides in the alien's spacecraft. Perhaps you could drop by my house sometime and take me on a spin to Barnard's Star? Kilde was, at least, a good speaker and so she should be considering she speaks seven languages - I wonder if one of them is Reticulan?

Tim Rifat was next up. His talk was



very much the same as the one he gave to Unconvention in April of this year (see this issue).

Busty Taylor, crop circle enthusiast and pilot rounded off the days events with a flick through the hundreds of aerial photographs of the crop circles he has studied during the past 12 years. Busty gave the impression that he was fighting a losing battle in researching what has become an embarrassing sub-topic of the UFO phenomenon - was it ever related to UFOs anyway? Busty looked tired and worn out as he told us how he "is broke" and (almost) divorced. Do yourself a favour Busty - sell your plane and buy yourself a farm so you can charge £2 to gullible tourists who want to sit in a circle and be at one with the space brothers.

It was a tiring day for us all. One and a half hours is too long for a single lecture and more breaks would have been of use in the humid atmosphere of the hotel.

Andrew Blunn.

### Are you interested in joining NARO?

The Northern Anomalies Research Organisation (formerly known as the Manchester UFO Research Association) has been established for 34 years.

We are a small team of researchers based in Central Manchester. NARO holds no corporate beliefs and treats every case on its merits.

If you would like to become a member, please contact the Secretary at the address at the front of this issue.

### IN BRIEF...

We have recently gleaned this item, from one of the saner subscribers to the inevitable ROSWELL HOME PAGE:

*Marsha Sneed, 18-year veteran teacher writes:-*

"I am a native of Artesia, NM, which is 35 miles south of Roswell and closer to Alamogordo. Fortunately, I escaped from New Mexico and got educated. I still can't believe the folklore and tales of mysteries that are perpetuated by good people who are basically ignorant in New Mexico.

Don't believe me? Check out the "Stradivarius" Violin in a little museum near Lincoln, NM\*, where Billy the Kid raised havoc. I thought I would die laughing when I saw that! But everyone of the natives swears it's real. They are good people in the Southwest, but they aren't real educated."

*\*footnote:* Could this be the same museum in Lincoln, New Mexico that is owned by Glenn Dennis? A previous issue of **NARO MINDED** has drawn attention to Mr.Dennis's tendency to open tourist traps in the area - some of them dedicated to teenage badmen (see above); and some, like his little earner in Roswell, dedicated to even more exotic local history.



Billy the Kid  
( Syphilitic gunslinger)



Glenn Dennis  
(where's your girlfriend Glenn?)

## UFO SHOW OVER LANCASHIRE

As the sky explodes with UFOs, the people of northwest England catch a tantalizing, frightening glimpse of the unknown.

By PETER.A.HOUGH

THE SMALL TOWN of Abram is near the Lancashire border with Merseyside, in northwest England. It's typical of the industrial north, with rows of terraced houses, old mine workings and a scattering of rundown mills nudged uncomfortably by the vast acres of rugged countryside. Winter Hill, 12 miles to the north, dominates the skyline - It's only mark of civilization a television mast which services the towns and villages in the valleys below.

Unemployment is high in the region but the people are proud of their heritage and their approach to life is straightforward and plainspoken. They are not the kind of people, in other words, likely to give much thought to exotic things like UFOs; yet the UFOs came anyway, in spectacular fashion.

The story begins at 9:45 on the evening of Friday, August 13th 1982. At that time Linda and Mike Meadows\* lived on the edge of a council estate, in Abram, near Wigan. East of them were open fields with Bickershaw Colliery on the skyline. The middle-aged couple's 10-year-old son Andrew was out playing.

Night had only recently fallen, so Linda sat watching television with the curtains open. Suddenly a bright object in the sky drew her attention to the lounge window. Mike, who was out at the front of the house, heard his wife calling and hurried inside. They wasted no time in moving into the back garden for a better view.

There they sighted a light grey cigar-shaped object with a row of square "portholes" from which issued a bright white light. Mike describes the rear as shaped like a fan and glowing red, leaving a slight orange trail. The garden faces south and the object was travelling slowly in a west-to-east direction.

Hearing voices in the field next to the house, the couple discovered a neighbour, Mr.Walker, and his nephew, a police forensics expert. They too had watched the strange aerial display.

\*pseudonyms used

Suddenly everyone turned his gaze to three distant colliery lights which are mounted high upon stilts. Around these fixed lights two small lights were circling like moths around a flame. A fourth object streaked silently across the sky, at low altitude from the Winter Hill vicinity, and joined the other two around the colliery lights.

The Meadowses say this one was shaped like an ice cream cone, coloured light-grey, with two orange lights at the rear. There were also two white lights, one on the nose and the other on the underside, casting a fan of illumination.

The witnesses turned their attention back to the cigar. It seemed to to be moving toward them in a northerly direction although it still faced west to east.The emissions from the rear had ceased but now the portholes dimmed and brightened repeatedly.

At this juncture the three objects left the colliery lights and headed toward the cigar. All of a sudden the cone accelerated, leaving the other two behind. None of the witnesses is clear about what happened next. When the cone reached the cigar, it either flew behind the object, or it flew into it. Whichever it was, the cone had disappeared for good.

The journey to Park Lane took about five minutes. During that time, because of the streetlamps and surrounding buildings, the couple lost sight of the objects. Halfway down the lane, which leads to a farm, is a firm called Abram Alloys. There was a security light on the perimeter wall and Mike parked close to it because it made him feel safer. It also made the vehicles presence obvious and he later reflected that this had probably been a mistake.

It was now after 10 o' clock. The Meadowses could see the cigar moving west-to-east again, about three-quarters of a mile away, close to a dense area of trees known as Crankwood. Then the two lights appeared, apparently on course for the cigar. For some reason they slowed and stopped, hovering in the sky as if undecided what to do.



"Its as if they were waiting for orders," Mike said later.

After about a minute one of the lights began moving once more but instead of continuing toward the cigar, it dropped almost to ground level beside the wood. It slowly moved along a shallow valley toward Park Lane.

Before the cigar moved out of sight behind some trees, Linda observed a strange manoeuvre. As it drifted away, end on, it changed position from the horizontal plane to the vertical and back again several times - like a pen being slowly twiddled between forefinger and thumb.

Mike was unaware of this because he had kept his attention on the light coming along the valley. With mounting apprehension he realised it was on a direct course for the car. A cold creeping sensation took hold of him and he experienced a feeling that "they knew we were there, watching them."

As the two debated what to do next, another light appeared, this time ahead, coming around a bend in the lane. It must be car headlights, he thought, but quickly noted that it was about 10 feet off the ground and wasn't bouncing up and down with the potholes in the road. As it moved closer, drawing between the narrow avenue of trees and bushes, the suddenly saw a bright orange ball several feet across.

Within a very short time, they feared, they would be trapped between the two converging balls of light. Something said to Mike, inside his head, "Get the hell out of it! Its time you was gone!"

He rammed the car into reverse, turned it around and sped off down the lane back into the lighted Abram streets.

Shortly after the Meadowses left for Park Lane, the two witnesses on the playing fields went inside and saw no more. Unbeknown to any of them, a fifth witness was about to come into the picture.

Above Mr Walker lives another gentleman named Mr Barker. Sometime before 10:30, as Mr Barker was passing his landing window which faces south, his attention was arrested by a bizarre object in the evening sky.

"I'm not saying I saw a UFO," he told me when I interviewed him, "but then again I can't explain it away as a conventional aircraft. For one thing it appeared much larger than an airplane."

He described a brilliant white fuselage with a line of oval-shaped "windows" along its length. The rear was shaped like a tail fin which glowed orange-red.

The sighting lasted about 10 minutes, after which the object slipped beyond his field of vision. Just

before that, however, Mr Barker noticed two lights which seemed to disappear behind or inside the craft.

Linda and Mike arrived back home just as "News at Ten" was going off the air, so they knew the time was about 10:25. Their son Andrew came in only minutes later to find his parents in an excited state. But before they had a chance to tell him anything, he blurted out a story of his own.

While playing on a bridge which crosses a nearby canal, he and his friends saw coloured lights and sparks showing through the trees over at Crankwood, about a mile to the east. This had been just after 10o clock, while Andrew's parents were watching the cigar disappear behind the trees and when the bright object had dropped into the valley behind Crankwood.

This was not the end of the story. Several more hours would pass before the area would see the last of the UFOs. Three miles to the northwest of Abram lies the small community of Bryn. Early in the evening Mrs Heyworth went into Bryn to play bingo. This was a weekly outing which gave her a chance to chat with friends and maybe win a few pounds. As she remarked to me, "...the last thing on my mind was UFOs!"

At the time the Meadowses were exchanging stories, Mrs Heyworth's husband arrived at the bingo hall to take her home.

The short journey took them past some fields known locally as 'The Three Sisters' where, coincidentally, they saw *three* very bright lights hovering above the fields. Her husband suggested they might be helicopters on a training flight, although neither heard any sound.

The Heyworths live on the edge of Bryn, overlooking a broad sweep of countryside which merges with the steep slopes of Winter Hill. After parking, they climbed out of the car and saw the lights were still there.

Now the objects were moving slowly and silently toward the hill in a triangular configuration. The couple could discern definite shapes and they realised that whatever the objects might be, they were not helicopters.

The two bringing up the rear of the formation were large, brightly lit spheres and the silver-coloured leading object was cigar-shaped. The Heyworths watched until the objects were out of sight, swallowed up by the sudden slopes of the dark hills.

When her husband decided to go to bed, Mrs Heyworth switched on her CB set and spent a long time talking with other breakers about her unusual sighting.

## The Northern Anomalies Research Organisation presents

# THE NARO FILES 2



### THE TRUTH ABOUT ALIEN ABDUCTIONS

Well-known writer and NARO Chairman *Peter Hough*, discusses some cases from his new book, uncovering the real reasons why people experience alien abductions.

### TIME TRAVEL

Writer, TV Consultant and NARO reports co-ordinator *Jenny Randles*, looks at the fascinating topic of time travel.



### FOLKLORE ON THE ISLE OF MAN

NARO researcher *John Hall* reveals the mysteries of the Isle of Man, drawing on his own in-depth research and first-hand experiences.

### THE ROCHDALE POLTERGEIST

*THE NARO TEAM* discuss the baffling events that occurred to a family in Rochdale, and which were witnessed by NARO researchers.



**WHERE? - The Friends Meeting House, Mount Street,  
Manchester (behind Central Library)**

**WHEN? - Saturday September 20th 1997.**

**Doors Open 9.30am**

**COST - £8 ON THE DOOR (NO TICKETS AVAILABLE)**

**Enquiries call Andy on 0976 319971  
or e-mail: andrew.p.blunn@stud.umist.ac.uk**



Then, for no obvious reason, a loud burst of noise hit the set, making it impossible either to transmit or receive further information.

To the south, just inside the Merseyside border, Pamela and Stephen Tate were watching a late night movie on television. The time was 1:10am.

Stephen sat with his back to a large picture window, while Pamela, at the other side of the room, sat facing it. The window has a Venetian blind which was open.

Pamela suddenly cried out and leapt from her chair to the window. Alarmed, Stephen instantly joined her at the window, looking out into the darkness of the new morning.

Opposite the window are two houses with a thirty foot gap between them. The thing that had caused Pamela to cry out was a large, brilliantly lit 'something' which was sliding into view from behind the roof of one of the houses.

In a matter of seconds the entire object was visible - a huge cigar shaped craft which, although bathed in brilliant white light, failed to illuminate either the sky or the surrounding buildings. Stephen ran from the room to find his telescope.

Pamela vividly recalls the nearly hysterical effect the object had on her state of mind. "It was so huge and so near," she says, "I felt sure it was going to take up the house opposite!"

By the time Stephen returned, the object filled the gap between the two houses, allowing the witnesses to estimate its size: 30 feet wide. Pamela rushed to the back of the room, overcome with fear, while Stephen continued to watch. As the object tilted upwards at a 40 degree angle, he saw a row of round "portholes" along its entire length. Slowly this cigar drifted out of sight travelling west-to-east.

The high screeching noise lasted about five minutes then stopped abruptly as it had started. Mrs Heyworth went back on the air and learned that other 'breakers' had experienced the same period of interference. By chance she contacted some 'breakers' operating from Matchmoor Lane near Winter Hill. What they told her sent her scurrying upstairs to wake her husband. The time was 1:30.

The Hill is a favourite location for CB operators. Its high elevation allows the signals to travel much farther than they do in the valleys.

Excitedly Mrs Heyworth recounted the conversation, noting that the 'breakers' had sounded afraid and edgy.

They had reported that a large lighted object had come over the hill some minutes before. It had

seemed to land on the far side in one of the quarries before taking off southward in the direction of Frodsham. Later reports indicated the object was heading toward Buxton in the Peak District of Derbyshire.

So what are we to make of the Abram UFOs? Were there several objects in different parts of the area or, more likely, one group, the leading player being the *cigar*, moving from location to location? Some of the times given by the witnesses are approximate but they do suggest the latter explanation.

I have personally interviewed all of the named witnesses, most within a week or so of the incidents occurring. I have not been able to locate the CB operators up on Winter Hill. On the air only a 'handle' or nickname is used; real identities are not disclosed.

It should be noted that about the time the 'breakers' claimed to be seeing something, several meteors were recorded in the night sky. Possibly this accounts for their sighting, although for many reasons (the duration of the sightings, for one) the meteor explanation cannot apply to all the other incidents.

Friday the 13th is supposed to be unlucky. Fortunately for us the UFO Phenomenon, for its own unfathomable reasons, decided to flex its muscles and give the people of the Abram area a spectacular show.

Peter Hough

## THE NARO FILES 2

*featuring*

**PETER HOUGH** - *Alien Abductions*

**JENNY RANDLES** - *Time Travel*

**JOHN HALL** - *Mysteries of the Isle of Man*

**THE NARO TEAM** - *The Rochdale Poltergeist*

**For more details contact Andy on:**

**0161 370 5694**



Sings Michelle Hickman after checking out the recent triangle-fest organised by LUFOS Head Honcho Timothy Matthews....

The date: Saturday 24th May. The Venue: The Friends Meeting House, Manchester. The time: 6.30pm. Ordinarily at this time on a Saturday evening, I would be settling down with tea on knee, to watch the original high flyer, 'Superman'. Instead, I was listening to the aspiring high flyer, Tim Matthews, introducing "International Ufologist, and prolific author of 35 books" - Jenny Randles, to a less-than-crowded house.

In fact, after a Billy Whizz head count, the total number was a princely fifteen which included the speaker, Mr Matthews, and his entourage. Indeed, Mr Matthews, who incidentally is the Chairman of LUFOS, and organiser of the event, was extremely indignant about the lack of interest that his publicity had generated; as he stated that "there had been a full page feature in the Manchester Evening News, and three radio advertisements." Wake up and smell the coffee, Tim. You must be aware of the old adage "that you can take a horse to water but you can't make it drink." Well in this instance, it's obvious that you couldn't even get the proverbial old nag to even take a sniff.

I do not believe for one millisecond that it was Ms. Randles presence which had caused the UFO community and the public alike to snub the event, but rather that there had been another unsavoury element. One wonders... Regardless of the meagre audience, Ms.Randles soldiered on like a true professional, and delivered a lecture in keeping with her customary excellent standard.

The theme of the evening's discourse was the history of (alleged) alien contact over the last fifty years. Beginning with the first alien

encounter to include the idea of genetic experimentation - by Patrolman Herb Schirmer in 1967 in America - Ms.Randles charted the bizarre waters of supposed alien contact, inhabited by a myriad of bright lights, grays, Nordics, and a couple of reptoids. The lecture was primarily to complement and promote her latest book, "Alien Contact: The First Fifty Years", although, unfortunately her message didn't reach the masses as she may have anticipated. Nevertheless, I feel that we were an appreciative, albeit minimal, gathering.

After this preliminary talk, there was a short interval for refreshments, in which I purchased a satisfactory cup of tea (30p) with a free biscuit included. As I sat in the reception area consuming my beverage, I had ample opportunity to observe my fellow spectators. As well as myself, there was a BBC reporter, a South American Psychologist (please forgive me if you are of some other clime); the erudite Andy Roberts and companion, and four other members of the public, who were clearly 'nuts and bolts' people, though it was blatant that their bolts had gone astray.

The most entertaining spectacle, however, was the sight of Tim Matthews frantically buzzing between paranormal dignitaries Ms.Randles and Mr. Roberts, religiously chanting his personal mantra, "Triangles, Triangles, Triangles", or was it "Rhubarb, Rhubarb, Rhubarb." I digress...for the last 30 minutes Jenny suggested that we engage ourselves in an informal discussion on the subject of whether or not we believed that aliens are actually visiting our planets. The four 'Meccano' subscribers staunchly agreed that the visitations are a fact, as I feared, whilst there were only



two hands shown for the motion that aliens are definitely *not* visiting Earth.

Jenny Randles approached the ETH devotees and requested that they present either a particular piece of evidence, or a general statement which explained why they believed the theory; although all they could manage were a few glassy stares, and inaudible mutterings. Well, that swung it for me. Mr. Roberts attempted to liven up the debate, by throwing into the forum the theory that all anomalous phenomena are interlinked - including alien encounters, and that the phenomena are interpreted in accordance with the technical advancement of the era that they are experienced in.

One example which he produced was the unquestionable parallels between faery abductions, and alien abductions of the present day. Both include bright lights, small beings, hybrid offspring or 'changelings', and so-called 'missing time'. Mr. Roberts argued that both were the same core experience, but were translated into different scenarios, due to the contrasting cultures and technical levels of the societies in which they occurred. This statement flew over the heads of the 'nuts and bolts' crew faster than a black triangle ever could.

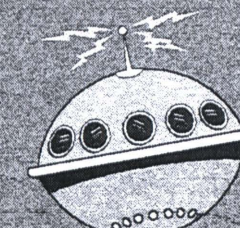
In summing up the evening, I feel that it was £5 well spent - even though I got more entertainment from watching the audience, and organiser, than from the lecture - no insult intended to Ms. Randles and her presentation. Finally I would like to end with a piece of advice for Mr. Matthews: if you want to shine as a respected ufologist, you have to do considerably more than bask in the light of others, in the vain hope that some might rub off.

Michelle Hickman

**NARO MINDED** would like to say thankyou to Lee Staniforth, organiser of the 'X-Files' convention in Manchester, for kindly donating a stall at the event.

## The Ufologist

by Andrew Blunn & Mervyn Gale



## I KNOW WHAT I SAW!

In the eyes of many flying saucer researchers, a case where the eyewitness is a pilot is a jewel to say the least; but why, when a human being puts on a uniform, does he or she suddenly become a 'trained observer'? Andrew Blunn scans the skies to see if this mythological beast really exists at all...

There is no other type of witness more often touted - by saucer buffs - than the so-called 'trained observer'. In a recent slot on local radio, I commented that not even the sightings of pilots, military or civil, could be considered 'rock solid'. Not surprisingly, this generated a negative response from listeners as well as the aforementioned pilots. I believe that I was misunderstood. In saying that pilots could not be relied upon to give accurate information with regard to UFO sightings, I was not trying to imply that pilots are fools who are unable to tell another aircraft from, say, a celestial body. I was simply trying to make the point that, *when under stressful conditions*, even pilots can make errors. As a student of Aerospace Engineering, I realise that pilots are trained to a very high standard. It is, however, a matter of *fact* that even pilots make mistakes.

In December of 1974 Robert Buckhout, a psychologist, wrote an article for *Scientific American* entitled 'Eyewitness Testimony'. He states: "An observer is less capable of remembering details... when under stress... Research I have done with Air Force flight crew members confirms that even highly trained people become poorer observers under stress..."

### classic case

"This is a significant case in our official history of the UFO phenomenon. Psychological and sociological theories need not apply here. The objects exhibited intelligence and a technology superior to our own..." say Jenny Randles and Peter Hough in their 1994 book 'The Complete Book of UFOs'. The case is certainly significant, being regarded as a classic case from the past 50 years of ufology. I am, of course, referring to the encounter over Tehran in September 1976, between Iranian Air Force F4 'Phantoms' and several alleged UFOs.

Lt. Jafari who was in command of the first F4, described the UFO as being "half the size of the moon..." radiating violet, orange and white light which was described as "...three times as strong as moonlight...". He also reported that the UFO increased its speed on 'seeing' the approaching F4. *Did* the UFO increase its speed? -as the pilot suspected, or was the reason, the rather more realistic one of the pilot mistaking a celestial body for an extraterrestrial spacecraft? Those familiar with the case will know that the pilot of the second F4 sent up to investigate the sighting, reported a projectile which was seemingly 'launched' from the UFO and which subsequently crashed near Tehran. It has also been incorrectly reported in many UFO books that the aircraft involved suffered electronic equipment failure when trying to intercept the object. Although this alleged failure is referred to in a memorandum regarding the incident, it was discovered thereafter, from analysing the cockpit voice recordings from the aircraft, that *no such failures occurred*. As for the 'crashed object' reported leaving the main object, that too can be explained; a search of the area revealed nothing except for a 'bleeping sound'. The source of this 'mysterious' noise, which was picked up by on board receivers can be attributed to an emergency locator beacon from a C141 aircraft. These aircraft experienced problems with the ejector systems that operate the emergency beacon whilst flying in turbulent conditions. The beacon would jettison by itself: there was often a lot of turbulence over the mountains near Tehran. The alternative hypothesis is that the bleeping noise was a beacon from the crashed extraterrestrial projectile that was reported by the pilots.

It is most likely that the 'missile' reported by the pilots was in fact a fireball or meteor which appeared to be coming straight towards the F4. Because meteors are unexpected, observers of them



often report these *genuine* extraterrestrial visitors to be far closer than they actually are. For example in June 1969, three separate flight crews flying in the vicinity of Missouri, believed they had almost been involved in a mid-air collision with a squadron of alien spaceships. Thanks to a sketch made by an eagle-eyed reporter, it was later discovered that the 'spaceships' were actually fireballs falling to earth *over 150 miles away*.

Even sceptic turned believer Dr.Hynek wrote:" Pilots have been known to swerve their planes violently when they suddenly encounter a very bright meteor they think is on a collision course, but which later proves to have been 50 to 100 miles away."

#### Flying Triangles

The most recent example in Great Britain of this type of 'expert witness' case occurred in January 1995; a British Airways Boeing 737 on its final approach to Manchester International Airport, was involved in an apparent 'near-miss' with what was described at the time as a 'flying triangle' or 'wedge shaped craft'. Since that sighting there have been a huge number of sightings of the flying triangle. Did these pilots really see a triangular shaped craft of extraterrestrial (or earthly as some North-West Ufologists believe) origin? Jenny Randles thinks not. At the recent Fortean Times Unconvention in London, Randles said she now thinks that the 'triangular craft' was in fact a rare meteor shower which the pilots misidentified.

#### lying pilots

Whilst at the same convention, Mervyn Gale and I were approached by a whining, disgruntled 'uforak'; he was whining because during Philip Klass's lecture, after bawling out "...you are making a mockery of our subject...", Mervyn retorted by calling him a fool. After the lecture the uforak came over to ask what Mervyn's motivation was for calling him a fool. The uforak explained that he firmly believed there was conclusive evidence to show that extraterrestrials were responsible for UFO sightings. He referred to the case of an aircraft that was apparently involved in a mid-air collision with a UFO. He was very vague with regard to the specifics and was, in fact, shaking nervously as he challenged my colleague's disposition. He didn't want to accept the possibility that the 'UFO' could have

been a meteor. The uforak's second argument was that the witnesses were pilots; he said "...are you saying that pilots are liars?". Obviously pilots are generally not liars. Our saucer buff friend was not a happy chappy.

#### limitations of perception

Of course it is not just pilots that are deceived by their own eyes - ordinary members of the public are too. It is often the case that after delivering a humdrum explanation to an excited reportee, they accept it - but then retort *it doesn't matter because I know what I saw*. In the end, they would far rather believe that they have been blessed with a visit from the space aliens than from a balloon or satellite.

It has been demonstrated that rational people from all different professions, inadvertently weave their UFO reports with imprecise information. For example in 1967, the Center for UFO Studies received nearly 100 reports from police officers of a UFO in Georgia. The UFO was returning nightly. Investigation of the UFO revealed it to be the planet Venus.

In the summer of 1996, NARO received a rash of sightings of two anomalous objects flying over Manchester at very high altitude and velocity. The objects were described as flying in a tandem formation, with *one object being slightly brighter than the other*. Some of the witnesses described all sorts of objects - our investigation revealed it to be a misidentification of the Space Shuttle docking with the Russian Space Station Mir.

#### statistics

According to most UFO researchers, 90% of all reported UFO Sightings turn out to be identified as celestial bodies, aircraft, satellites etc.... But they also refer to the other 10% as unexplainable *due to lack of further evidence*. It is my belief that the figure is closer to 99%. I would like nothing more than for the Zeta Reticulans, the Nordics or even the Reptoids to land in Downing Street tomorrow and say 'Hi!' to the people of the earth. But unfortunately I think that it is highly unlikely!

Forgive me if I sound rather cynical, and I *do* believe that there *is* a genuine phenomenon behind *some* UFO reports. But we have to get away from the current research methods practised

by *some* researchers in this country and indeed the western world. For it is a fact that 'Modern Ufology' as it is augustly referred to is limited to the First World only - this alone should teach us something about the nature of the UFOs and their true origins.

I mean, aliens *could* be visiting us right now, but if they are - I think they will be keeping a considerable distance from us; and if the day does come when we are contacted by another civilisation from a distant world, the whole of this planet will know about it.

#### References:

**The Complete Book of UFOs, Jenny Randles and Peter Hough, Piatkus 1994.**

**The Complete Sightings Catalogue, Peter Brookesmith, Blandford 1995.**

**UFOs: The Public Deceived, Philip.J.Klass, Prometheus 1983**

#### BUFORA LIVERPOOL CONFERENCE

"Isn't that Tim Matthews the crop circle guy?" remarked the lady behind me. 'Well not quite *circles* but some other shape' I thought. I didn't even realise Tim was speaking at this Liverpoolian gathering.

I would've expected a lot larger crowd with Messrs. Warren and Robbins in attendance, but only about 150 people filled the partially renovated Central Hall, about 2 minutes from Lime Street Station.

Margaret Fry was first to speak, about the alleged crash of an alien spaceship on a Welsh mountainside. Her claims were 'supported' on the somewhat shaky foundations of the ufonauts' concern for the Welsh population in the face of the awesome power of an earthquake (which measured about 3.5 on the Richter scale). Apparently the space brothers had come down *in advance* of the tremor, presumably to marshal people to safe areas and co-ordinate with the military. Well no actually. Indeed the only 'co-ordination' apparently occurred with the *coordinated* anti - ufo fire put out by our armed forces! The case first came to light when Harry Harris' minion, David Cayton, gave Margaret an article about a meteorite that had come down in the area; Cayton knew that Fry would think there *had* to be more to it than just an *ordinary* meteorite. Fry believes that our government knew about *their* arrival because of our sophisticated satellite network, and that we shot them down and tortured the occupants at an underground animal testing laboratory. 'Nuff said.

Tim 'Pythagoras' Matthews spoke next about Britain's alleged secret triangle building operation. I was impressed with Tim's lecture and I agreed with most of what he said. Tim has certainly done his homework when it comes to the current technology used in aircraft. I originally thought he was just another unqualified dilettante jumping on the ufological bandwagon but I was wrong. He presented a great deal of evidence to support his claims (unlike some so-called UFO Investigators), and while I don't think for one nanosecond that 'secret technology' can explain all UFO reports, I *do* think that there is a good chance that some of the flying triangle reports could be our own (presently)secret technology.

Stan Conway gave an interesting lecture on 'UFO Physics' which appeared technically correct, and wasn't (for the most part) a trek through the expected myriad of anti-gravity devices and gyroscopic engines - a bit disappointing really. I also thought that most of what he said went over the heads of some of the audience who were not as well versed in Physics as he might have expected.

Larry Warren and Peter Robbins were the highlight of the day. Like virtually all American Ufologists, Peter was a smooth talker but he wasn't to be outdone by Warren who did most of the talking. Warren told his story well and almost had me convinced that something strange did occur in Rendlesham forest on those late December nights. Larry denounced the sceptics who have accused him of smoking dope and misidentifying a lighthouse beam. I personally feel that it is odd that the light they witnessed pulsed at *precisely* the rotational frequency of the lighthouse; but, the jury is still out on that one - time will tell.

To sum it up, it was worth £5 and was, for the most part, very good.

**Andrew Blunn.**



## Exchange Mags

Exchange mags received this month reviewed by *Andrew Blunn*.

### MAN IN BLACK

This A5 size mag is a polished, accurate publication which carries contributions on subjects such as 'synchronicity' and helpful advice such as 'How to Debunk a Rival'. Man in Black is edited by Boo Busby who asks 'Should I believe it or not?', and promises that the only garden path 'MAN IN BLACK' will lead you up is one of truth that *finally* leads to the rose garden of believability; however Boo cautions that as with every rose bush, you should expect the occasional prick.

To subscribe to MAN IN BLACK, send a Cheque made

payable to MAN IN BLACK for £9 (for four issues inc p&p) to:

Department MIB, 14 Gresham Road, Thornton-Cleveleys, Blackpool,

Lancashire, FY5 3EE.

for more info e-mail: SMAHER@fs2.ge.man.ac.uk

**MAGONIA** is an A4 size magazine edited by John Rimmer. It is a stylish, incredulous periodical which, like NARO Minded, seeks to demand higher standards from UFO researchers. As John Rimmer says in the editorial of issue 59:

*These days it is taken for granted that ufology is the study of UFO reports and anything which in any way, or by any stretch of the imagination, appears to be associated with them...those who take an interest in the subject rarely stop to consider that there is no such thing as a UFO, except in the technical sense of being something seen in the sky which is not easily or immediately identified as a familiar object or phenomenon.*

There is also a rather amusing letter printed in that particular issue from Albert 'Poltergeist Machine' Budden. The letter wonderfully illustrates the sad political battles that *some* researchers thrive on; the juvenile depths to which paranormal researchers are willing to sink makes me laugh hysterically but also frustrates me - after all, how will we ever get anywhere if this incessant bitching continues. Lets have some constructive criticism instead of the 'my theory is better than yours' attitude.

To subscribe, send a Cheque made payable to 'John Rimmer' (NOT MAGONIA!) for £5 to:

John Rimmer, John Dee Cottage, 5 James Terrace

Mortlake Churchyard, London SW14 8HB

Magonia on the 'web' at:

<http://www.netkonnnect.co.uk/d/dogon/index.htm>

**STEALTHCHASER** is produced by Tim Matthews' 'UKStealth Study Group' which seeks to collect data and to investigate sightings of triangular aircraft, whilst at the same time bringing together aviation and UFO enthusiasts.

To subscribe, send a cheque made payable to the 'UK STEALTH STUDY GROUP' for £15 to:

PO BOX 73, LANCASTER, LA1 1GZ

email: Stealthchaser@hotmail.com

**The Armchair Ufologist** is a new pamphlet penned by researcher, writer, and 'UFO Times' Editor Andy Roberts.

By his own admission, there is rather a lot of UFO politics in it - well rather a lot of Philip 'Mantilli' bashing actually. However 'The Armchair Ufologist's' policy is to be tough on ufology, and tough on the *causes* of ufology - and thats enough for me.

To subscribe, send a cheque for £6 to:

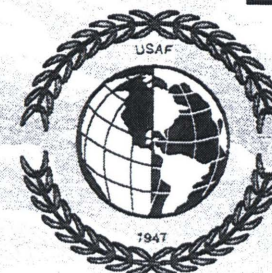
Andy Roberts, 84 Ellend Rd, Brighouse, West Yorkshire, HD6 2QR

**To have your mag advertised for free on this page,  
send it to the address at the front of this issue!**

# REVOCATION OF FLYING PERMIT

This is to certify that, pursuant to Executive Order 1521-3A, I hereby revoke the permission hereintofore granted to **THE GREY SPACE ALIENS, OR EXTRATERRESTRIAL BIOLOGICAL ENTITIES, PURPORTING TO EMANATE FROM THE ZETA RETICULI STAR SYSTEM** for the purpose of over flying the White Sands Proving Ground; this revocation to be revoked should the aforementioned GREY SPACE ALIENS cease and desist from crashing, colliding in mid-air, and otherwise buying the farm.

**TOP SECRET MAJIC  
COPY ONE OF ONE/  
EYES ONLY**



NATHAN F. TWining, Lt-Gen. USAAF

STANLEY F. REEDMAN, Pfc



**ADVERTISE IN NARO MINDED!**



To advertise in NARO Minded, contact Mervyn on 0161 4285899.

### *Northern UFO News*

*For the latest sightings and events news contact:*

Jenny Randles  
1 Hallsteads Close  
Dove Holes, Buxton  
SK17 8BS

#### **ASSAP**

Association for the Scientific  
Study of Anomalous Phenomena

**Nationwide Network  
of investigators**

Contact:

Dr. Hugh Pincott  
20 Paul Street, Frome  
Somerset, BA11 1DX

#### Phenomenal News

A quarterly booklet  
containing true  
accounts of the  
paranormal

Subscription rates: £4  
per year (inc postage) or  
£1.50 per issue)

Cheques payable to:  
R Halliday  
35 Fountain Rd  
Bridge of Allen  
FK9 4AU

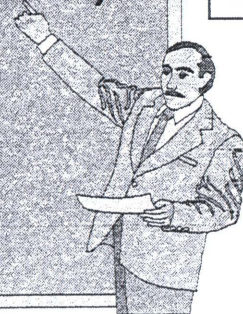
### **STRANGE DAYS**

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: £1.00 PER  
ISSUE OR £4 PER YEAR.

**A MONTHLY MAGAZINE  
FEATURING UFO  
INFORMATION FROM  
NORTHERN UFO RESEARCH  
AND INVESTIGATION.**

MAKE CHEQUES/POS PAYABLE TO:  
D.D. NEWTON, NUFORI, UNIT 24  
EAST CHEAP, HEATON  
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE  
NE6 5UA  
PLEASE MARK  
FOR THE ATTENTION OF  
DAVE NEWTON.

**BOXED ADS  
FROM £5  
(per 4 issues)**



## **COMMENT CORNER**

**"LIKE THE COVER!"**

PHILIP J. KASS, WASHINGTON D.C

**"WE CAN'T BELIEVE THEY'RE SO  
SCEPTICAL..."**

DIGAP

**"I HAVE EVIDENCE THAT WILL DRIVE YOU  
INTO THE GROUND!"**

STEVE BALON

# **RANDES AND HOPKINS (DECEASED?)**

Did the extraterrestrial hypothesis bite the dust at this years Fortean Times Unconvention?  
Mervyn Gale and Andrew Blunn report from the front line...

It was half an hour before the doors were due to open. A queue was already forming, composed in more or less equal parts of crop-watchers, Goths, follically-challenged suspected Hawkwind fans, and, of course, a smattering of fresh-faced Uforaks. There was an optimistic buzz of anticipation in the air. Who would be the first celebrity to arrive?

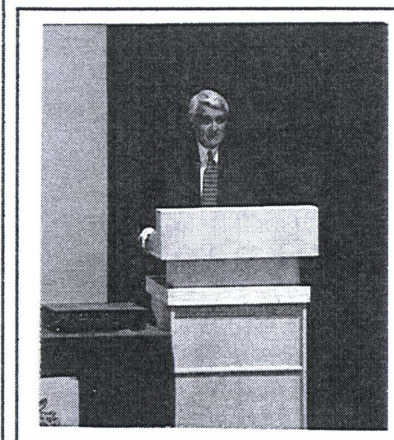
As it happened, the vanguard before the invasion had already come and gone, unnoticed by most, in the diffident guise of Mr Hilary Evans. He walked straight past the building wearing the bemused look we all assume when we know we've come to the right address, but aren't sure of the date or time. Approximately twenty minutes later he returned, apparently satisfied with his preliminary reconnaissance. (Its occurred to me that his first appearance could have been merely phantasmal, perhaps occasioned by his anxiety - a textbook apparition of the living, more 1884 than 1997.) This unwonted shyness was to evaporate on stage, but more of that anon.

The contrast between the arrival of the ascetic-looking H.E. and that of the famously flamboyant Reverend Lionel Fanthorpe could not have been greater. Clad in his trademark biker's apparel - including expensive Harley Davidson boots - he was positively besieged by paparazzi. This amiable cross between Friar Tuck and the anti-hero of a 1957 Juvenile Delinquent film is obviously now, officially, a star.

Speaking of anti-heros, the advent of Mr Budd Hopkins was unexpectedly low key. Nobody seemed to recognise him.

If he wasn't famous for being modest and unassuming, you might almost have expected him to be jealous...

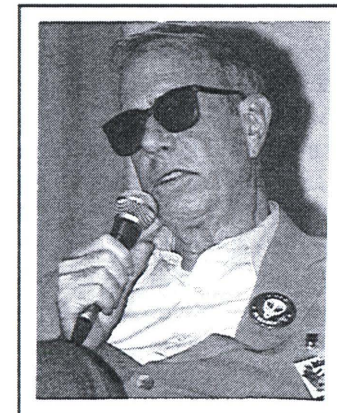
Budd Hopkins



Or perhaps he was just frightened. This conference, not altogether unexpectedly, turned out to be rather less ETH-friendly than most. Hopkins himself was a surprisingly lacklustre speaker - a glib and uninteresting journeyman, rather than the polished, urbane guru that one might have expected. At least he was honest (or artless) enough to point out that his ostensibly powerful corroboration for the Linda Cortile/Napolitano story - a letter from 'witness' Javier Perez de Cuellar - was written on novelty UN notepaper. (Available in the UN gift shop). Eyebrows were raised all around the lecture hall when Budd argued, in all seriousness, that the fact that lovely Linda had wet hair one particular night was impressive evidence in support of her claim to have been cavorting on the beach that same evening with Richard, Dan, and the greys. Presumably, on this sort of basis, my sister could convince Mr Hopkins that she was Adolf Hitler because she can speak O-level German.

The massacre was soon underway. The aforementioned Hilary Evans made several elegant jokes at the expense of Betty Hill; the legendary Jim Moseley, itching to dish the dirt on American ufologists, had to make do with tolerantly sceptical anecdotes; and Marcus Allen did his usual number about multinational conspiracies and Lunar paranoia.

James W. Moseley



The deadpan humour of one Philip J. Klass was lost on a strident US visitor who demanded to know why he doesn't take the exotic stories of 'high strangeness' UFO witnesses at face value. He replied by bending his elbows, flapping imaginary wings, and telling her he had flown to Venus. She smiled in reply; Phil merely said: "Why are you laughing, why are you laughing?" The point, I think, had been made.

Our own Jenny Randles made a particularly game contribution to the slaughter. She was certainly wearing her sceptical shoes today. And her psycho-social blouse. And her 'bollocks to the Manchester 737 triangle' banner also went down well. (Figuratively speaking.



Allegedly.)

Fringe benefits included an engaging and historically detailed talk by Duncan Lunan on the famous 'Green Children' of Woolpit, whose descendants he managed to prove, by dint of exhaustive genealogical enquiry, include the former Environment Secretary of the last government.

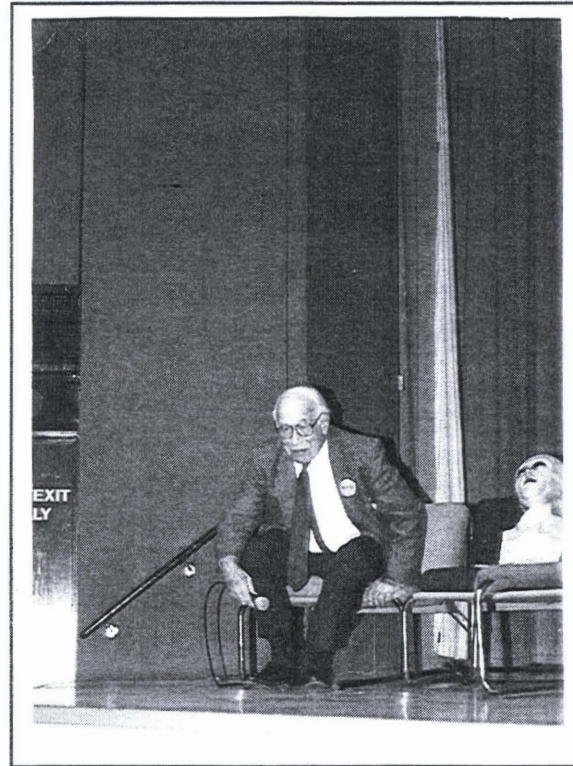
The energetic Tim Rifat waved his arms about, and talked about 'remote viewing', aka clairvoyance; quite ambitiously, he attempted to provide a somewhat abstruse scientific framework for this flavour-of-the-month ability.

However, it was the closing panel discussion on the state of modern ufology that proved to be the most memorable part of the entire conference.

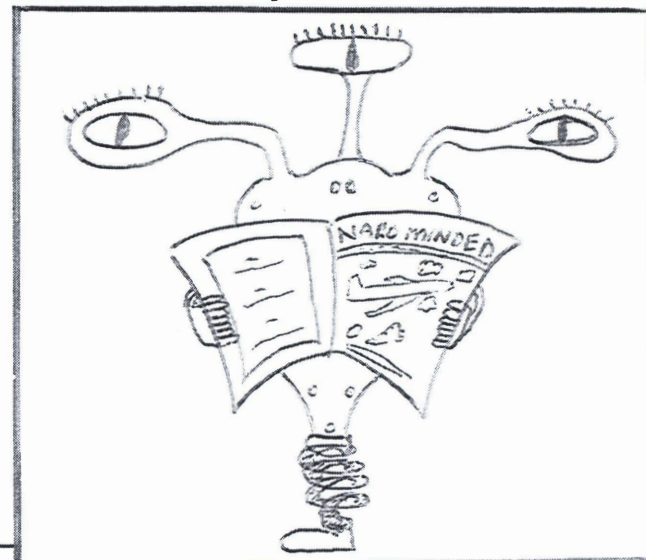
Something was clearly amiss when Ian Simmons hefted the celebrated Morgana 'alien autopsy' head on to stage, and dumped it down on the seat next to Philip Klass and Patrick Huyghe...

Budd Hopkins was noticeable by his absence - the aforementioned plastic alien Roswell head was apparently standing in for him - well, not actually *standing*, of course. More sort of lolling there, scowling angrily like the bald purple domed alien in the end titles of Star Trek. Had it eaten? This was very short notice: for all Mr Simmons knew, it had a train to catch. A person behind us whispered "I think that's really offensive" in defence of the absent Budd, but most people found it hysterically funny. Simmons made a very caustic reference to Mr Hopkins' failure to turn up and face the music. This music was played in his absence anyway, to the sceptical tune of Klass and Moseley, with mild-mannered support from Huyghe. Jenny had already gone, in time-honoured fashion, to catch the inevitable train. Only Dennis Stacy, himself usually scathing about the ETH in his published writings, seemed uncomfortable. This could well have been the most cynical (and well informed) gathering he'd ever attended.

And that was it. ETH, RIP.



Ufological unperson Philip.J.Klass takes a well deserved bow after the question and answer session.



Patrick Huyghe sneaks one arm round the back of the alien head whilst Philip Klass draws attention to his 'abductee' badge. Incidentally, the 'Morgana' head was a lot more responsive to questions than Budd was during the previous days lecture.



# LUONEY TUNES and LUNAR LAGOONS

Mervyn Gale asks whether 'cultural masochism' is the reason behind the theory that mankind never went to the moon.....



## The Past:-

Let, us, in our mind's eye, travel back to the balmy, fecund plains of the Serengeti, whence we all came; the time is about two million years ago. Our gentle, nomadic Australopithecine forbears are now but a distant racial memory - times are harsher, and we have begun to use tools. One day, far hence, they will call our kind *Homo habilis*, to commemorate our ingenuity. One of our wise men - for we consider ourselves as men, and have an inner life - has noticed that it is easier to cut the hides off our kills by breaking a rock, and using one half (the sharp one) to shear away the flesh. We have always known how to cut - but hitherto, we had to *look* for the sharp stones to do it with. The wise man has taught us that we can *manufacture* such stones on purpose - and now our horizons are unlimited....

....Until one day, when the Sky Creatures came to us. They left the belly of the Silver Beast, and drew nigh to our clan. Their Chieftain pointed to me, and knelt before a dying bird. His spindly arm described a glittering arc: with his blade he had hewn the bird in two. Then, he spoke to me from inside his head. This did not alarm me, for we too can call without noises. (The wise men tell us that we may one day forget the trick of doing this). He said:-

"We will teach you many things..we offer you a gift, to use as you will. You can slice, cut, shorten, maim or kill with it..."

The wiseman, forbearing so far, thundered out with his mind:-

"YES! But we've already thought of it for OURSELVES!" - and transfixed the suave intruder with the broken flint in his hand.

## The Present:-

"Ah, yes", said the speaker, "the moon landings"...The audience convulsed briefly, and audible titters were released. The speaker was silken-voiced, lank-haired Marcus Allen; and surely his listeners knew what to expect. Mr Allen, the doyen of the new -agey touchy-feely conspiracists, was just getting into his stride. A familiar image blazed onto the overhead projection screen - that of Edwin A. "Buzz" Aldrin. Mr Aldrin was wearing unusual clothes, since he happened to be standing on the surface of another world. He was stooping slightly, as if the burden of history were a palpable thing, pressing down on him from above. I confess that this image has always filled me with a visceral wonder - I mean, just consider the sheer audacity of it: sending three men aloft, and propelling them 239000 miles to the barren surface of an alien 'sea', with the whole world in attendance. Nobody, except over-zealous school science teachers, even pretended there would be immediate practical benefits; and the propaganda victory was played down in the magnanimous plaque left behind on the L&M decent stage - "we came in peace for all mankind" - for this was the age of detente. (The USSR had been effectively out of the race for about four years, since the heady successes of Vostok peaked in 1963-4). No: this act, despite its military underpinning, and despite the scientific drum-beating, was essentially numinous-machinery and Newtonian mechanics expressing essentially poetic aspirations.

But non of this washes with Mr Allen and his cohorts. Perhaps we would be unwise to expect much in the way of passion from a man who looks like a sort of cybernetic undertaker. (This chap peddles 'Nexus' Magazine in between oil changes, or whenever he happens to be out of cryogenic suspension). No, Allen and Co believe that Aldrin's problem wasn't that he liked being the cynosure of the world's eyes, but that he felt guilty. Guilty? Yes - wouldn't *you* tend to avoid eye contact if you'd participated in the hoax of the century, namely the *faking* of the Lunar Landings.

This is not the place to consider the multitudinous shortcomings of this, er, *errant* belief: the devastating response to David Percy's 'Fortean Times' exegesis speaks for itself.



I must content myself by remarking that these people seem to know little, or nothing, of the following subjects: astronomy, optics, photography, arithmetic, physics, politics, sociology, human anatomy, psychology; or, indeed, the design specifications of the hardware involved, together with the detailed mission parameters.

In the face of this withering barrage from well-informed F.T. readers, one must applaud Allen for sticking his sleek head over the parapet yet again, this time at the 'UnConvention'. Why did he do it? After all, he must have been at least *aware* of the minute dissection his pet 'anomalies' had received in print. The answer, presumably, is that this quixotic denial of patent historical fact serves some deeper purpose, partly flowing from the wellsprings of it's author's own personality - and, perhaps something more mythic. It's as if Allen, or Percy, can't help saying these things; *maybe* they find it cathartic somehow.

It seems to me that this belief has something in common with another, that was born around the same time - namely the notion of the 'ancient astronaut'.

There was a period in the early-to-mid '70's when it was unwise to peruse the 'occult' shelves in your local WHSmiths if you were of an impressionable age and disposition. If you did, you were liable to be seduced by paperbacks bearing the images of copper-coloured flying saucers swooping low over Easter Island statues; or herds of sauropod dinosaurs gazing down in awe as alien nuclear warheads blossomed anachronistically into mushroom clouds, thereby ushering in the age of Mammals. You would now be on the threshold of entering the realm of the 'Ancient Astronaut'; and if, at a tender age of about twelve, you had browsed through the actual text, your soul would have been forfeit. You would find accounts of model aeroplanes found in burial mounds, or perhaps a techno-babbly rendering of a 'Chariot of Ezekiel', tricked out as a technical drawing by a NASA low-achiever. It all seemed so rational, so *plausible* .....but later, as your mellow years dawned, you would (hopefully) come to terms with the psycho-social truth about UFOs, and blow a loud 'Bronx Cheer' to Andrew Tomas and Raymond Drake and E.von.D. Now, I believe the idea that we were given everything worth having by inscrutable aliens from Sirius B. is fundamentally dangerous. Agreed: it's not rampantly paranoiac, like believing we didn't go to the moon, but, as I said, it shares a common trait with that other view - we may call that characteristic 'cultural masochism'.

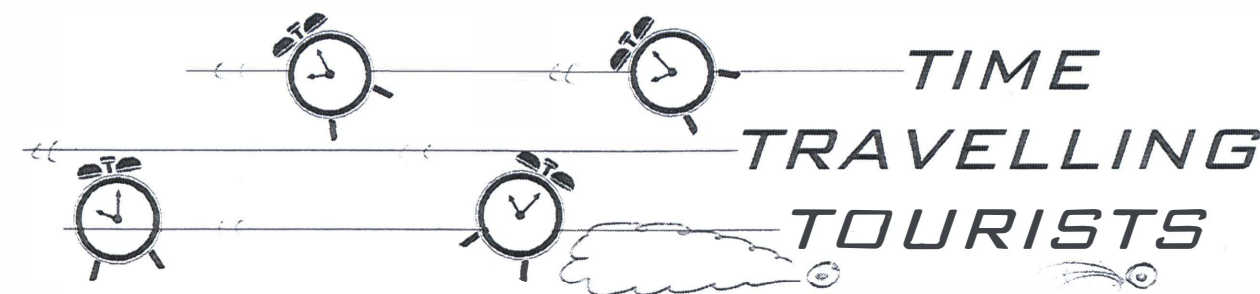
Just as Percy and Allen assert that we *couldn't* have gone to the moon, so the 'AA' Brigade likewise claimed we *couldn't* have assembled the Pyramids; or moved the stones to Stonehenge; or learned to wipe our little bottoms without benefit of awesome extraterrestrial assistance. Their arguments tend towards an amusing, schoolboy literalism: Von Daniken cannot conceive of ancient engineers with sufficient imagination to move something heavy from 'A' to 'B', so how can he possibly accept that, for example, the Nazca lines could have been designed *without* "aerial reconnaissance" to help with a beak here, or a wingtip there? (For him, conceptual thought - in his case, trigonometry - must have come into existence suddenly, perhaps in the Middle Ages!). This cultural insularity sits surprisingly easily with the bland, high-handed technocratic prose of so many 'AA' books; the authors after all, are imparting the message of the ages to their feeble-minded, anorak-clad brethren, so they'd better make it easy for us all.\*

Similarly, Allen and Percy loftily dismiss the Apollo programme with the amused disdain of the amateur anthropologist who's telling us all a few home truths - after all, how *could* someone take piccies with a chest camera sans viewfinder? (You'd have to be primitive to fall for *that*. Presumably, the idea that astronauts *actually practised* this 'impossible' job in an aircraft, and underwater, for hundreds of man-hours each, could only come from an unsophisticated mind?)

These gentlemen take positive pleasure in the cultural emasculation of humanity: they're out to pull us all down a peg or two. If it happened in the olden days, we were guided and taught (primitive apes that we were); and if it happened recently (and it was clever) then we must have cheated. They're masochists, then, because they feel guilty - guilty about belonging to a creative species.

### Mervyn Gale

*\*Amusingly enough, the writer Nigel Kneale anticipated Von Daniken's ancient astronauts in his celebrated teleplay 'Quatermass and the Pit' in 1959. However Kneale's insectoid Martians are responsible for human destructiveness rather than their creativity - far from being sky-gods, they are the devils who threw us out of Eden. In the era of frightening gynaecological Grey extractions, it's hard not to find this interpretation more convincing.*



ANDREW BLUNN DISCUSSES THE POSSIBILITY THAT PEOPLE FROM THE FUTURE, ARE TRAVELLING BACK IN TIME TO OBSERVE HISTORY IN THE MAKING...

"Tachyons" I said to the man on the other end of the phone. "Tachyons?..." he replied sluggishly, "...what are they then?". It was May 2nd and close to Midnight; I was taking part in a radio phone-in about UFOs. You know the score: people ring in and tell you about how they once saw a strange light in the sky when they were sixteen and on the way back from the pub. It was a particularly unsuccessful show, partly due to the previous days' General Election euphoria which was still raging rampantly up and down the land and secondly, because it was the first warm summer's evening of this year.

I was attempting to explain to one of the saner callers to the 'James Stannage Talk Show' the finer points of Quantum Mechanics. It was a futile attempt on my part to inject some life into a debate about UFOs being 'Time Machines' as opposed to Alien Spaceships. The caller had made reference to an article in the Manchester Evening News about a Professor from Manchester University who is one of the foremost sub-atomic Physicists in the country. The caller was attempting to describe something to me that he had read. I was telling him that there was the possibility that there are such things as 'faster than light' particles - such as Tachyons. He didn't believe me and so he hung up - which is a pity really because I probably would have confounded him further by informing him that time runs *backwards* in the world of the tachyon. I was also about to enlighten him with the fact that if you were to use a tachyon for communication purposes, then you could - theoretically - receive the reply before you send the message!

Scientists are now scanning the skies for Tachyons which they believe are impacting on the earth along with 'cosmic rays' which come after the tachyons. If these particles are proven to exist, then they could revolutionise communication across the galaxy (should we ever need it). They could be indicators that Time Travel may one day become a reality.

If you had a time machine, what would you do with it?

Perhaps you would go back to a childhood haunt that no longer exists and observe yourself from a discreet distance. Or maybe, like the time travelling Dr. Beckett from television's Quantum Leap, you would go back to right a past error. You may decide that your finances need a boost - and so you take a peek at next week's lottery numbers. How many of us could resist the urge, to be standing on the grassy-knoll in Dallas, Texas on November 22nd 1963; or standing on the quayside at Southampton on April 10th 1912 as the Titanic set off on its first and last voyage? Perhaps you would travel to Roswell, New Mexico in the early part of July 1947, and lay to rest one of the most hotly debated topics in ufology. The list is endless. The problems begin, when you accidentally (or intentionally!) kill your grandmother.

As a result of your grandmother's death, you no longer exist as you were never conceived. However, if you were never conceived, then you could never have travelled back in time to the point where you had the unfortunate accident - and so you *were* born after all: this means that you *do* go back and have the accident and so on....This, as you may know, is known as the grandmother paradox.

Perhaps the act of just meeting your granny in the street would be enough to seal your evaporation into nothingness; for you may set off a chain of events which results in your granny never meeting your grandad.

But perhaps this paradox has a resolution. Some Physicists are of the opinion that there are many other parallel universes besides our own. A parallel universe is brought into existence everytime a choice is made. For every choice that is made, both choices are played out in separate universes. For example; in an alternate universe, I never made the choice to go to university and so I may be doing something completely different from what I do in this universe. This idea has been explored in many Sci-Fi stories such as the classic Star trek episode 'Mirror Mirror', which sees the



'Enterprise' crew pit their wits against evil versions of themselves from a parallel universe. So how does this resolve our grandmother paradox?

Let us go back to the point where you accidentally dispatch your grandmother on her journey to the pearly-gates. Upon realising you're about to blink into nothingness, you activate your time machine and find yourself back in your own time. You are rather surprised to find you still exist. The reason for this is the parallel universe theory. You have returned to a future where you (accidentally) killed your grandmother in the past. You are now in an alternate universe that you have created. However, you are the you from the other universe, the one where everything happened as it should have done. The idea of alternate universes has been explored in another Sci-Fi series entitled 'Sliders'. The sort of universes they encountered ranged from one where the U.S was still in the possession of Great Britain (complete with London buses and red telephone boxes), to the one where the atomic bomb was never developed and the population of the Earth face imminent destruction from an incoming Asteroid. If parallel universes exist, then it may be that we are interacting with them all the time. Indeed, the changes between each universe may be so small that you probably wouldn't notice anything amiss if you were ever transported to one - except that there may be another version of yourself there! The theory of parallel universes may explain some paranormal reports: like precognition, deja-vu. Parallel universes may also make a contribution to dream imagery in some way.

It makes sense to assume, that if at some point in the future time travel becomes a reality, the visitors from the future must already be here, and so maybe we should be looking for them. In 'TimeTravel', Randles makes the suggestion that maybe we should trot down to our local library and take a look at old newspaper reports, and old photographs; but what should we be looking for? Well, put simply - an anachronism. An object or person 'out of time'. It may be, that if we scan photographs from famous events in history, the same faces appear again and again throughout. Unfortunately, it would be like looking through a hundred haystacks and not knowing what you are looking for.

**It could be anyone!**

So is there any evidence of time travellers?

It has been suggested that UFOs may, in fact, be time machines; if UFOs are nuts and bolts craft then one would expect there to be a 'UFO Flap' around the time of a significant historical event - as far as I am aware, no correlation has been made. I don't think that this explanation of UFOs holds up too well; because like other hypotheses (ET included), it doesn't provide a 'blanket' explanation for *all* UFO reports.

If we are to believe that UFOs are controlled by beings of some kind, then their behaviour is very odd indeed. For example I fail to see how cow's arses could be of interest to anyone - alien or otherwise! Mind you, the greys are only supposed to have an IQ of about 80 (which is considerably more than *some* UFO researchers).

The TV program 'Strange But True?' recently featured the story of a couple who were holidaying in Europe with friends; whilst journeying through France on the way to they stopped for a much needed rest at an unusual hotel. They expressed amusement at how old-fashioned the place was; and they were certainly pleasantly surprised when they were charged a hideously small sum for their one night stay. Whilst returning from their main holiday in another part of Europe, they decided to take another small break at the same hotel; this time however, they were unable to find the building or any trace of where it had been. Was this a case of the family travelling through time? Or was it *the hotel* that made the leap from one period to another, only to recoil to its initial position once more after they had left. An interesting fact to note is that the staff at the mysterious inn (assuming they were 'out of time'), did not seem perturbed by the family's automobile or the questionable origins of their currency.

Maybe the family were experiencing a shared psychic experience in which they were in tune with a building and persons from a bygone era. Perhaps the hotel was a 'recording' with which the family could interface. One wonders what would have occurred if they had remained in the hotel for another day or so - would the hotel have remained in its temporary locale for as long as were necessary?

If the occupants of this eccentric hotel were as real to the holidaying family as 'ordinary' people, then maybe we should look twice at the person walking down the street, as they could be from anywhere - or perhaps, 'anywhen'.

**Andrew Blunn**

### Further Reading:-

*Time Travel, by Jenny Randles,*

*Blandford*

*Time Warps, by John Gribbin, Dent*

*1979*

# PHANTOMS IN PRESTWICH

Guest writer Andy Howells, a member of MENSA, writes about the strange goings on in his home on the outskirts of Manchester.....

After many requests from fellow members of MENSA, I have finally got round to giving a written account of my encounters with 'the other side' (not IT) which occurred at my house a few years ago.

I must mention straightaway that my house is not the usual gothic setting many people attribute to haunted houses, but an average sized semi built in the mid 1930s - an ordinary suburban house.

I live in Prestwich (four miles north of Manchester), the name of which is derived from 'Priests Retreat', and the area is justly renowned for a plethora of ghostly occurrences over very many years. For instance, a village called Simister which simply oozes with spookiness, and an old tavern called the Church Inn which is well known with local occultists and has produced many spiritual sightings over the years.

My particular house has (or had) four spirits, all of which I have seen. The following incidents occurred between 1990 and 1992: I had two lodgers at the house at the time - one family, the others not; they did not, or so they say, see anything. All the sightings took place in my bedroom, on the door of which are Jewish prayer scrolls which supposedly prevent spirits from crossing the threshold. I am not Jewish, by the way.

I decided in late 1989 to have my loft converted. Previous to that time neither myself or family had hardly ever looked into this loft,

save for a cursory glance round with a torch. It was a dark, dusty, wood-strewn mess. The trap-door entrance was above the landing at the top of the stairs.

In January 1990 all the work was completed. It was now a new, bright, modern, airy study-room with a brand-new Velux window. A complete transformation! The original trap-door was closed off, and a new wider entrance with an aluminium ladder was built in my bedroom.

That's when things started to happen! Obviously the work, and always-open new entrance had disturbed whatever was up there!

One Thursday night at about 12.30am in February 1990, only two weeks after the work was completed, I woke up; there, stood beside my bed, looking down, prayer like - was a figure. I could plainly see every strand of her fair hair, and she was wearing a green dress/robe with some red near the neck. What made me curious was my own reaction. It was either a friend playing the fool, or...it was a ghost, and I wanted it to be a ghost! I was delighted.

I was definitely awake, (I could hear the TV on downstairs), and I was not inebriated or dreaming. I still stared at her. Then I levered myself up and looked at her fully; there was two feet of space between her and the floor! I knew then that it was the genuine article. I then addressed her: I said 'Hello!', and again 'Hello!', in a friendly way. No answer. I couldn't see her face, just her hair, her green dress and her hands. I was kneeling two feet in front of her, looking her up and down. Then I did something



which I shuddered at afterwards. I touched her, and my hand went straight through her! At that she sidled along further down, still beside the bed.

I flopped down on the bed again - still watching her. I then put the light on - and she disappeared. I turned it off again, I waited but she wouldn't come back. The whole incident lasted approximately two minutes. I wasn't frightened at all, and was actually quite chuffed that I saw what I saw!

The next night of course, friends and I held a vigil in my bedroom. Predictably, nothing happened.

The second occurrence produced a very different reaction in me. Two weeks after the first incident I woke up at approximately 3am, and another female figure, definitely a different one, dressed in white, was actually moving towards my bed. This time with something akin to anger and fear I lunged at the apparition, my hand went through her and hit the aluminium ladder; she rapidly rose up and through the trap-door to the loft.

I also saw an old lady looking at me from the other side of the room. She seemed to be sitting. I was not at all concerned. The three female spirits all appear to be serene with the old lady sighting occurring in 1991.

It seems obvious to me that the four spirits are a family - father, mother and two daughters - which brings me to the bloke! He was the last I made acquaintance with. I saw him twice in 1992. He is tall with a full beard.

The first time I saw him I didn't take much notice - 'Oh another ghost, how nice. Blase. But the second, (and this proved to be the last sighting I've had) was a different matter! It was July 1992.

I woke up, and there, stood about six feet from my bed was this hostile, fierce-looking, tall, bearded figure glowering at me. I shot out of bed in terror, banged my head on the bedroom door, and bounded downstairs, there was blood everywhere!

Since then, I have seen nothing. Have they departed? Have they accomplished their unfinished business and passed on?

Many months after the apparition I had a chap at my house regarding a completely different matter, and it transpired that he was a medium. I asked him whether he felt anything of that nature in the house, and he said he did, and he made 'spiritual enquiries'. He informed me that there were four spirits, one male and three female, which absolutely verified what I had seen previously. And the male spirit was named Charles.

As I mentioned before, my house is an ordinary, bright home which doesn't look like a haunted house. It has been on sale for over three years (I'm not moving because of the ghosts - I like them!) - but, for some uncanny reason, I just can't sell it!

### Would you like to join the Northern Anomalies Research Organisation?

NARO always invites applications from potential members. If your application is successful, you will be invited to one of our meetings which are held in the centre of Manchester **every three weeks**. This would initially be on a **trial basis** lasting for approximately **three months**. After this period an offer of full membership *may* be made.

Please remember that **NARO holds no corporate views**, however our membership is made up of people with a **wide variety of opinions on the subject of the paranormal**.

If you are interested in joining us then contact the **secretary** via the address at the front of **NARO MINDED**.

# B O O K R E V I E W S

## INVESTIGATING THE TRUTH BEHIND THE MEN IN BLACK PHENOMENON

Jenny Randles, published by Piatkus pb 234 pages, £8.99

It is some time since there was a book devoted to the Men In Black - sinister 'officials' who harass UFO percipients - so this was read with more than usual interest.

The book is a useful reference tool as it contains all of the classic cases plus some lesser known ones, including some that the author and this reviewer have personally been involved in. Indeed, I was once mistaken for a MIB whilst investigating a UFO sighting! This must be a lesson for us all...

Old chestnuts are re-told like Albert Bender's visit by three demonic MIB and Dr. Herbert Hopkins' lipstick smearing bald headed 'undertaker'. These vie with Jim Templeton's rarely reported account of his eccentric visitors and other more contemporary incidents.

Jenny analyses the cases and then steers towards a conclusion. This is where, I feel, the book is flawed. She talks of shape-shifting aliens, and looks at folk lore tales of elementals, and even Satan, disguised as dark mysterious strangers. But there is little doubt where she places her bet. The MIB are agents from covert government departments.

The bizarre appearance and behaviour of most MIB visitors are explained as a deliberate ploy so that no one will believe the stories. Agents can then investigate UFO sightings without credence being given to government involvement in UFO investigation. Any witness reporting an interview by the MIB will have no credibility because of the bizarre aspects.

Strange though *that* sounds, it does make a quirky sort of sense. However, Jenny omits to present to her readers a vital aspect of the mystery which would detract from the feasibility of her conclusion. Through my own investigations and studies I have no doubt that some MIB reports are of eccentric ufologists and clandestine government officials, but the majority represent neither. They represent a part of the UFO phenomenon itself.

Over the last ten years or so a branch phenomenon has gained media publicity and attracted the attention of the police. In Britain alone there are now hundreds of documented cases of bogus social workers calling at houses, accusing parents of child abuse, demanding to examine children and threatening to take them away.

The BSWs are stereotypical - they look how we *imagine* social workers should look - smart, suited, wearing glasses, carrying clipboards, acting official with an air of arrogance. There are bizarre aspects to their appearance and behaviour, however, just like their cousins, the Men In Black. When challenged the BSWs look confused and leave.

Police forces across the country have investigated reports, issued photofits and asked the public to be vigilant. Yet despite this, no one has been arrested and questioned. Having investigated a case myself, I have no doubt the phenomena are linked. It is as clear as day.

What does this mean then, in the context of this book? Are we expected to believe that a covert government department is sending out agents dressed as social workers to harass and frighten parents? If so, for what purpose? If their bizarre behaviour is meant to stop police from believing the reports, then patently this has failed.

By not informing the reader about the BSW phenomenon, they, like the author, might be persuaded into thinking that MIB reports have been generated by secret agents. That might appeal to the followers of nuts & bolts ufology, crashed spaceships and Area 51, but it is hardly an investigation of the truth - or at least the *whole* truth.

Peter Hough.



# BOOK REVIEWS

## THE TRUTH ABOUT ALIEN ABDUCTIONS

by Peter Hough and Moyshe Kalman, Blandford, 1997, pp192: Price £9.99

Once upon a time, when I was young and naive, I spent all my pennies on a book entitled 'Abductions: Human Encounters with aliens' by Dr. John E. Mack. 'I couldn't put the book down; I hurled it across the room', commented the great wit Doro hy Parker about a similar waste of paper; a waste of paper which cost me £6.99, that I bitterly regret to this day. On the day when my copy smashed against the bedroom wall, I took a solemn vow, never again to ruin my eyesight on the dubious, and fantasy ridden world of abduction literature.

Imagine my horror, several abduction-free years later, when I was handed a copy of Peter Hough & Moyshe Kalman's new book. I gingerly opened the pages to the introduction, and prepared myself for the worst 'Are alien abductions subjective or objective, internal fantasies or hard, cold fact?' This was hard to grasp. Were the authors actually questioning the authenticity and reality of their subject matter? As I read, it became astonishingly clear that the authors had an objective, and healthy scepticism about their work, and were prepared to explore the subject in an unbiased, critical manner. I expect Dr. Mack is spitting implants.

I dusted down the battered remains of Dr. Mack's offering, and gazed down at the two books; it was like comparing Pomagne to Champagne, 'The Sunday Sport' to 'The Times', a 'Big Mac' to an 'Aldi economy burger'. In his book, Prof. Mack uses the oh-so familiar formula of abduction, and labours it until it fags out and expires. Human meets small entity, gets taken to spaceship, has examination, has sperm/ova/hybrid embryo extracted; is shown the destruction of the earth, receives implant and is taken safely home. Read-it, seen it, bought the t-shirt-boring. This collection of banal and predictable tales should be placed next to 'My Secret Garden', as they both contain depraved sexual fantasies, by sad, attention seeking individuals. The aliens have allegedly perfected the art of extracting bodily substances, I think Mack has learnt something from the Greys, as he is most proficient at extracting urine from his readers.

This is only one of the stark differences between the two books. Hough and Kalman present to the reader a whole wealth of new, and diverse cases to examine, which do not adhere to the tired old abduction scenario. We are offered Dr Simon Taylor's magic carpet ride in Tehran, Philip Spencer's terrifying ordeal with a green being on Ilkley Moor, and Abigail's encounter with gnome like creatures and sinister clowns. On superficial inspection, these incidents appear wholly unconnected with the general consensus of the abduction phenomenon, but as the authors peel off the layers of these experiences, the core element remains the same. Are abductions and encounters with aliens, metaphors for some deeper truth? If so, we have made the mistake of taking the imagery at face value without digging beneath the surface for the real meaning.

Another aspect which is refreshing and unique about the book, is that Hough & Kalman counterbalance the convincing evidence with more rational explanations: such as, fantasy prone personality, false memory syndrome, and even the validity of using hypnosis as a scientific tool. The authors also delve deeper into the subject, and explore connections between the abduction phenomenon and other paranormal experiences; they also look at the parallels with alleged Satanic ritual abuse.

'The Truth About Alien Abductions' is a revelation within the genre. It is intelligently written, and has a balanced and open-minded approach which is seldom seen on the shelves of ufology. I would highly recommend this book if you want to see a thought-provoking study; alternatively, I recommend John Mack's book, if you suffer from insomnia. It isn't a hard choice to make if you're an intelligent being.

Michelle Hickman.

# THOU SHALT NOT TELL!

Alicia Leigh argues that Men In Black are not covert government agents, but that they are an integral part of the UFO phenomenon itself....

Various strains of paranormal phenomena have been featured in modern science-fiction films with a great degree of success. Doing the rounds on the film circuit at the moment is 'MIB' starring Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith. This latest portrayal of the Men in Black is based on a 1960s comic strip and is a typical 'shoot 'em up' movie with the main characters pursuing a career in imitation under the command of the U.S. government. No doubt the tabloid press will throw caution to the wind and jump on the conspiracist bandwagon and the public will be coaxed into believing the kind of stuff that normally comes out of your arse. Forgive me if I sound cynical but history does have a tendency to repeat itself. If you dip into the media's pool of paranormal information you are bound to pull out a handful of unrivalled cess which has brought about the rise of many modern myths including the cringeworthy ETH.

The MIB phenomenon is a sinister addition to UFO experiences but is by no means exclusive to them; although close encounter witnesses do seem to be common targets. The men are usually described as being smartly dressed in suits and are seen to drive black vintage cars which appear to be in pristine condition. They often pretend to be officials, and display extraordinary behaviour patterns. People who claim to have been visited by these intimidators are subject to an interrogation - if given the opportunity. Witnesses tend to be alone when the men call on them (but not always) which quashes the opinion that this is a purely subjective experience.

During the 1976 heatwave, Duncan Andrews took some photographs of a strange ball of light that appeared in the afternoon sky. Duncan, a professional photographer, developed the film himself that evening. When the processing was finished he took the photographs to show his wife, Lynda, who'd also witnessed the ball of light. They had no idea as to what this light might be, although, Duncan suggested it may be something

meteorological: whatever it was, they thought it was unusual.

The next morning Duncan received a visit from a man claiming to be from 'the ministry'. He was dressed in a dark suit and had donned a bowler hat, not unlike 'Steed' from the tv series 'The Avengers'. The man told Duncan that he required the photographs and the negatives of the strange light taken the day previous, to which Duncan said no. At this, the man walked away without a word. Duncan noticed that the man was carrying an umbrella which he thought was a rather odd item to be carrying in the middle of a drought. Only when the man was out of sight did Duncan realise that the man could not have known about the sighting or the photographs, because neither he or his wife had discussed it with anyone else.

The man described in this case is quite tame compared to the two men who went to interview a young woman in Lancashire, about her close encounter.

The interview took four and a half hours to conduct, the woman was reduced to tears and branded a liar by the men. All this was witnessed by her parents.

One of the men referred to himself as 'Commander' and claimed he'd lost his arm during service in the RAF - yet 'Commander' is a term used by the navy. The other man sat with a black box on his knee, which was supposed to be a tape recorder, but it appeared that tapes were not used. Despite all this the teenager stuck to her story and was warned not to speak of the incident to anyone else. The men departed in an old black car driven by a third man, which looked as if it had just rolled off the assembly line. The girl's parents seemed to become subdued in the men's presence and offered their daughter no protection from her harrowing ordeal. They would certainly not let her suffer this under normal circumstances.

Some of the more bizarre characteristics include pointed ears, waxen skin, expressionless faces,



glowing-eyes , and one witness reported that the MIB who visited him wore lipstick!

They are quite puzzled by ordinary equipment, such as an electric fire in one case, and ask its purpose.

In the early eighties, Ryan, Lisa and John shared a flat. Everything was fine for a while until Lisa, who was intrigued by occult practises, suggested they conduct a seance using a ouija board. John and Ryan thought it was a joke when Lisa started to speak in a deep male voice. They became worried, however, when her face became contorted and objects began to fly around the room. This was only the beginning . As the week went on they were too afraid to sleep because of the threatening presence that had invaded their home.

Ryan was visited by the new parish 'priest' who introduced himself as Father Green. He shouted John who shook the 'priest's' hand at which the man seemed bewildered by the goodwill gesture. Father Green turned to the men and said, "...stop what you are doing now, the dark forces will destroy you!" He then walked off, leaving Ryan and John in a state of panic. Later that day all three of them went to check up on the priest. It was no surprise when the parish priest said he'd never heard of this man.

Feeling tired and thirsty after a long drive, Rick and Paula Ellis pulled into a motorway service station for a well deserved break. They decided to make use of the petrol station shop, rather than face the trauma of the packed service complex. As they entered Rick acknowledged the two men in attendance behind the counter. They chose their items and made their way to the cash desk, it was only then that Rick and Paula noticed the strange appearance of the man at the back.

The first man chatted to them as he tilled in their goods but they were preoccupied with a growing curiosity for 'the other man'. he was dressed in black with his hair and skin looking distinctly plastic-like. He never spoke as he moved stiffly around the other attendant, observing his actions. He reminded them of an animated shop dummy - yet the other man did not seem to notice him at all. They left the shop rather hurriedly without their purchases.

One of the more bizarre cases from across of the Atlantic involves a Dr Herbet Hopkins who was carrying out hypnotic regressions on UFO witnesses. Hopkins was spending the evening alone when he received a phonecall from a New Jersey ufologist who asked if he could come over and

discuss a case they were involved in. As Hopkins went to turn on the outside light, a man was already climbing the steps. The man wore a black suit and black hat which looked brand new - Hopkins compared him to an undertaker. The man removed his hat to reveal a smooth pate and smeared the lipstick he was wearing. Hopkins invited him in and they began to discuss the case. Sometime later , the man complained about a loss of energy and his speech began to slur; like a toy with depleted batteries, the man left.

A few days later, Hopkins daughter-in-law had a call from a man who claimed to know her husband. He asked if he and his partner could visit them in a few days time. Maureen and John met the visiting couple at a local restaurant and invited them back for coffee - despite the fact John didn't remember his 'old friend'. The visitors accepted the drinks but never drank them. Their hosts were aware of the couple's incongruous clothing and their peculiar behaviour such as openly fondling the woman and asking if he was 'doing it' right.

It becomes clear that this phenomenon can manifest itself in different guises, and each case has it's own individual qualities. Most notable, of course, are the 'bogus social workers' which, apart from the odd isolated incident, became a nuisance in Britain in 1990.

These 'officials' present themselves to parents in an attempt to take away their children, parents whose capabilities have never been in question. The men and women, in these cases have similar traits to the MIB which seems to illustrate a parallel phenomenon.

There is only one known case where the children were actually removed. The two boys were taken to a nearby park, given an ice-cream and left to their own devices. When challenged, the 'officials' seemed confused by the emotional reaction of the parents.

The police are puzzled by these events and are no nearer to finding the culprits, despite the circulation of detailed descriptions of the offenders.

Although it is probably fair to say that *some* MIB are representatives of the government, this explanation does not cover all of them. There have been rare cases where the men have been waiting at the witnesses' homes immediately following their experience. So for those of you still standing your ground with the government agents - a sphincter says what?

**Alicia.D.Leigh**

SUBSCRIBE TO

## NARO MINDED

**NARO MINDED** is a quarterly magazine produced by the **Northern Anomalies Research Organisation** which contains reports on cases investigated by the group, as well as articles on the paranormal in general. If you would like to subscribe at the *extraordinarily* cheap rate of **just £8.00**, (£10 overseas) which includes delivery; fill out the form below and send, together with a cheque or postal order made payable to NARO, to:

**NARO Minded Subscriptions**

**77 Silverdale Rd**

**Gatley**

**Manchester**

**SK8 4RF**

**YES!** I would like to subscribe to **NARO MINDED** for 1 year (4 issues). I enclose a cheque/ postal order for the sum of £8.00/£10.00 overseas.

Cheque/Postal Order Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**DO NOT MAIL CASH!**



If you, or anyone you know, has had a  
paranormal experience - NARO would  
like to hear from you.

**Contact your nearest researcher:**

**Peter Hough**

**01942 604265**

***South Manchester***

**Mervyn Gale**

**0161 428 5899**

***North Manchester***

**Vic Sleight**

**0161 280 1606**

***Urmston***

**Philip Bradbury**

**0161 865 9515**

***Liverpool***

**John Hall**

**0151 475 7935**

**Confidentiality is assured.**

**©Northern Anomalies Research Organisation 1997**